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Interior Dept



UTE

Letter from the Secretary of the Interior,
transmitting ... correspondence concerning the
Ute Indians in Colorado.

January 7, 1880.

[Washington, 1880.]

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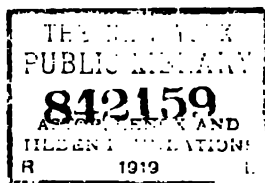


60

46TH CONGRESS, }
2d Session. }

SENATE.

{ Ex. Doc.
No. 31.



LETTER

FROM THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate of December 8, 1879, correspondence concerning the Ute Indians in Colorado.

JANUARY 7, 1880.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, January 6, 1880.

SIR: In response to the resolution of the Senate of December 8, 1879, I have the honor to transmit herewith "copies of all correspondence by letters or telegrams between the Secretary of the Interior * * * and N. C. Meeker, late Indian agent at White River Agency, since the 1st of January, 1879, and also copies of all correspondence by letters or telegrams between the said Secretary of the Interior * * * and General Hatch, General Adams, the governor of Colorado, Special Agent Pollock, of and concerning the Ute Indians in Colorado."

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ,

Secretary.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, January 6, 1880.

SIR: In response to the resolution of the Senate of December 8, 1879, I have the honor to transmit herewith "copies of all correspondence by letters or telegrams between the * * * Commissioner of Indian Affairs and N. C. Meeker, late Indian Agent at White River Agency, since the 1st day of January, 1879, and also copies of all correspondence by letters or telegrams between the said * * * Commissioner and General Hatch, General Adams, the governor of Colorado, Special Agent Pollock, of and concerning the Ute Indians in Colorado."

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ,

Secretary.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

Mar. 7, 1916. Vol. 60

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 6, 1880.

SIR: In transmitting to the Senate copies of correspondence with reference to the Ute Indians in Colorado, as called for by Senate resolution of December 8, 1879, I beg leave to say that I have retained two letters received from General Adams, the one concerning the testimony taken by the Ute commission, and the other touching further negotiations with the Utes with reference to their reservation, which letters, it is believed, the interests of public policy demand should be withheld from publication at the present time.

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

Commissioner Hayt to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., Oct. 1, 1879.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,
Muscogee, Indian Territory :

Dispatches received to-day from Agent Meeker convey information of an expected outbreak by his Indians. A later dispatch from Rawlins reports that Major Thornburgh's command was attacked by the Indians on Milk Creek, eighteen miles north of the agency, and that the major and thirteen soldiers were killed, and fears are expressed that Agent Meeker and his employes are massacred. These reports may be exaggerated. Will confer with Secretary McCrary.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

Agent Stanley to Commissioner Hayt.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., October 2, 1879.

To Commissioner HAYT:

Chief Ouray, the head of the Ute nation, sends the following order to his people by a runner:

To the chiefs, captains, headmen, and Utes at White River :

You are hereby requested and commanded to cease hostilities against the whites, injuring no innocent person, nor any others, further than to protect your own lives and property from unlawful and unauthorized combinations of horse-thieves and desperadoes, as anything further will ultimately end in disaster to all parties.

STANLEY, Agent.

Agent Stanley to Commissioner Hayt.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, *October 9, 1879.*

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington :

Employé Brady and escort of Indians have just arrived from White River. The Utes recognized and obeyed Ouray's order—withdrew and will fight no more, unless forced to do so. If soldiers are now stopped the trouble can be stopped by a peace commission to investigate offenses, and let the blame rest where it may. This will save life, expense, and distress, if it can be accomplished.

Later: 1.30 p. m.—A runner is just in from the Southern Ute Agency with a letter from the agent. A general council has been held. The Utes will obey Ouray's request, and will stay at home and take no part in the White River trouble, and request Ouray to inform them of their decision.

STANLEY, *Agent.*

I concur in the above.

OURAY,
Head Chief of the Utes.

Secretary Schurz to Agent Stanley.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 13, 1879.

STANLEY, *Agent,*
Del Norte, Colo. :

Your dispatch received. Tell Ouray that his efforts are highly appreciated by the government. In view of the attack made upon the troops and massacre of agent and employés, the troops will have to proceed to White River Agency. Ouray should endeavor to prevent any resistance to this movement.

The troops are now in great force, and resistance would result only in great disaster to the Indians. The hostiles will have to surrender and throw themselves upon the mercy of the government. The guilty parties must be identified and delivered up. We shall see that no injustice is done to any one. Peaceable Indians will be protected. Ouray's recommendation for mercy in individual cases will be respected as far as the general interest may permit. Special agents are being dispatched to Los Pinos with further instructions.

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

Governor Pitkin to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

DENVER, COLO., October 12, 1879.

Hon. CARL SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C. :

Have just received the following dispatch from Herman Linders, postmaster at Lake City, Colo., dated October 10 :

Courier in from Los Pinos Agency says Ouray and all other Uncompahgre Ute chiefs dissatisfied with Agent Stanley, and they cannot guarantee safety while he is there. They all want the department to replace him, at least temporarily, at once, and I would suggest Fred. C. Peck as the man for the place. Having been with Agent Adams two years ago I know all the headmen, and will go with Peck to the Agency. Act quick, as Ouray wants a good man to act with him.

(Signed)

LINDERS.

My advices indicate that many of the Uncompahgre Utes are at White River.

FREDERICK W. PITKIN, *Governor.**Secretary Schurz to Governor Pitkin.*

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 13, 1879.

Gov. FRED. W. PITKIN,

Denver, Colo. :

Dispatch received. I have ordered Inspector Pollock, a trustworthy and energetic officer, to proceed to Los Pinos at once and take charge, if necessary. We expect also to have General Charles Adams detailed for special duty, and to send him to Los Pinos. Ouray informs us that his orders are being respected, and that there is prospect of ending the difficulty. Permit me to suggest that militia and armed citizens be strictly instructed to confine themselves to protection of life and property outside of reservation, if such should become necessary, which now seems improbable. Regard this as confidential.

C. SCHURZ.

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 13, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,

Denver, Colo. :

You have been detailed by the Post Office Department, at my request, for temporary special service among the Utes. The letter addressed to you by the Postmaster-General to this effect will be sent by mail; but, as time is precious, I would request you to proceed without delay to Los Pinos. Your first object will be to strengthen Ouray in his friendly attitude, in case the refusal of the government to stop the troops produce

excitement among the Los Pinos Utes. This done, it is desired that you secure a sufficient escort of Indians, with Chief Billy, or some other reliable and influential chief, and, if possible, Interpreter Curtis, and go with them to White River, to rescue the employés still alive, and to advise the hostiles to surrender, and those who have taken no part in hostilities to keep out of the fight. No promises are to be made, but that those who surrender first will have the greatest claim to mercy, except the murderers of agent and employés and the ringleaders in the attack on Major Thornburgh, and that peaceable Indians will have full protection. If you cannot accomplish a complete surrender, you may succeed in dividing them. In the latter case, you may consider the policy of bringing the peaceably disposed Indians over to Los Pinos. You may assure all that the troops are bound to force their way to White River, and to destroy all resistance. The longer the resistance lasts the worse it will be for the Indians. Whether you think this mission to White River practicable, and what measures are to be taken in detail, is left to your judgment and knowledge of circumstances and persons. Show this dispatch to Agent Stanley as sufficient authority for the furnishing of rations and all other facilities needed. If you think of other points requiring instructions, telegraph at once with your acceptance. Keep me well advised.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary of the Interior.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 14, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent, Leadville, Colo. :

Have received no acknowledgment of yesterday's dispatch. Situation is changed since hostiles evacuated White River Agency. Ascertain, if possible, at Los Pinos, where White River Utes are, to put yourself in communication with them. They are to understand that those who took no part in the massacre and fight have nothing to fear. Convince Ouray and other chiefs that they cannot afford to shield or conceal guilty parties, and that resistance has no possible chance. Make every possible effort to discover and rescue the female members of Meeker family. Put yourself in communication with General Merritt, supposed yet to be at White River, and give him all the information you have, with your opinion of the condition of things. General Merritt is advised of your mission. Express to him your opinion freely. Acknowledge receipt.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to Governor Pitkin.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 14, 1879.

GOVERNOR PITKIN, *Denver, Colo. :*

Telegraphed General Adams at Leadville last night, but have no response. If you know where he is, please advise him that explicit instructions were telegraphed to Leadville.

C. SCHURZ.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

Governor Pitkin to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

DENVER, COLO., *October 13, 1879.*HON. CARL SCHURZ, *Washington, D. C. :*

General Adams at Leadville. Your dispatch considered confidential.

FREDERICK W. PITKIN.

Secretary Schurz to Governor Pitkin.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
*Washington, October 13, 1879.*Governor PITKIN, *Denver, Colo. :*

The Post-Office Department has made the detail of General Adams, as desired. If he is in Denver, please inform him. I shall send instructions.

C. SCHURZ.

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

DENVER, COLO., *October 14, 1879.*CARL SCHURZ, *Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C. :*

Have only just arrived from Leadville, and received your dispatch of yesterday and also of this afternoon ; will start to-morrow morning, via Alamosa, and further instructions will reach me there to-morrow night ; will hasten and endeavor to carry out your wishes.

CHAS. ADAMS,
*Special Agent.**Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.*

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
*October 15, 1879.*General CHARLES ADAMS, *Alamosa, Colo. :*

No further instructions. I have largely to trust your judgment. The main object is to bring the offenders to justice, and at the same time avoid further collision. Report fully.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Governor Pitkin to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

DENVER, COLO., October 15, 1879.

Hon. CARL SCHURZ,

Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C. :

There is the most intense excitement throughout the State over the captivity and possible tortures of the female prisoners taken at White River. If there are enough regulars in the State to successfully overcome the Indians, would it not be well for General Hatch to march directly to Uncompahgre Agency, and seize all women and children as hostages. If Federal force too small, we can furnish enough additional troops in San Juan in a day. The barbarities practiced by the Utes have inflamed our people almost beyond the possibility of control.

FREDERICK W. PITKIN.

Secretary Schurz to Governor Pitkin.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, October 16, 1879.

Governor PITKIN, Denver, Colo. :

The course suggested in your dispatch cannot be adopted. No effort will be spared to rescue those in peril. General Sherman tells me that the troops in hand appear sufficient for present purposes, and there is neither authority nor occasion for enlisting volunteers or State forces. You will readily recognize the importance of keeping militia and armed citizens away from the Indian reserve to avoid more extended and unnecessary complications.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Sherman to Secretary Schurz.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,

Washington, D. C., October 17, 1879.

DEAR SIR: I have a telegram from General Sheridan, saying he has a message from General Merritt to the effect that to punish the hostile Utes he would, on the 15th instant, move from White River for the Grand River and the Los Pinos Agency, but General Sheridan supposes that before starting General Merritt will have received my dispatch of October 13, notifying him of the appointment of Special Agent Adams, and to be governed in his conduct by his instructions.

Do you want General Merritt's force of about one thousand men to be at White River or at the Los Pinos Agency?

Some one must determine this question, and as the Interior Department has charge of the Ute Indians, and the military is acting to support the Indian Bureau in its management of this tribe of Indians, I beg of you to inform me whether you prefer that this military force shall be at the Los Pinos Agency or at White River.

Your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN, *General.*

Hon. CARL SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

Secretary Schurz to General Sherman.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 18, 1879.

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of yesterday, referring to General Sheridan's dispatch, in which he expressed his apprehensions as to the difficulties likely to attend a movement of General Merritt's troops across the mountain ridge between the White River and the Los Pinos Agencies, which dispatch you communicated to me in full at our interview subsequent to the receipt of your letter, I have the honor to say that General Charles Adams, the special agent of this Department, will probably reach the Los Pinos Agency to-day or to-morrow. As you know, he is instructed to ascertain, if possible, the present whereabouts of the White River Utes, and, succeeding in this, to use every effort, with the aid of Chief Ouray, to bring about their surrender. I may have a telegraphic report from him by Wednesday next. It will probably then appear whether that surrender can be accomplished without the assistance of a considerable body of troops or not.

In the mean time I fully agree with the opinion you expressed at our interview last night, that General Merritt should not at present undertake the hazardous march across the mountain divide, but remain at or near White River, and that another body of troops be concentrated at Alamosa to act as the condition of things at Los Pinos and the Southern Ute Agency may require.

I shall without delay inform General Adams of the instructions telegraphed by you to General Sheridan last night, and direct him to put himself in communication not only with General Merritt, as ordered before, but also with the commander of the forces at Alamosa, keeping both these officers fully advised of the situation of things.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General W. T. SHERMAN, *U. S. Army.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 18, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,

Special Agent Los Pinos Agency, via Del Norte, Colo. :

General Merritt is instructed to remain at or near White River until further orders. A force is being concentrated at Alamosa, probably under Colonel Mackenzie, subject to requisition from Los Pinos or Southern Ute Agency, in case of necessity. Keep the commanders at both places fully advised. Insist vigorously with Ouray and his people upon surrender of guilty White River Utes. Make strenuous demand on Ouray to use his whole power. Those who abet the hostiles will be held responsible. It is most desirable that surrender be effected peaceably. If not, government forces must be called upon. Prompt compliance is the only salvation of the Utes under existing circumstances. Make every effort for rescue of Meeker ladies. Inspector Pollock has been sent to look into affairs of agency. He will co-operate with you as circumstances demand. Report fully.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Sheridan to General Sherman.

[Communicated by the General of the Army to the Interior Department.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Chicago, October 21, 1879.

GENERAL: I inclose, herewith, a copy of my telegram of the 17th instant, as it was published by all the newspapers here, and as it was doubtless sent out by the associated press. I also inclose a copy of this telegram as it was actually sent to you. I desire to call your attention to the fact that what I meant has been misconstrued, owing to the very important difference which exists between the wording of a certain sentence in the original and in the dispatch as published. My telegram shows that I referred to a range of the Rocky Mountains between the White River Agency and Rawlins, while the published dispatch makes me refer to the range between the White River Agency and the Uncompahgre Agency. The Secretary of the Interior seems to have taken this latter view of the matter, as evinced by his letter to you of the 18th instant.

In some way my telegram of the 17th has been seriously altered, and I would like to know on whom the responsibility for the alteration rests. I did not in that telegram allude to the difficulties of a march by Merritt's command from the White River Agency to the Los Pinos, as no difficulties as to crossing the range between these two points existed.

I do not write this to provoke any discussion of the matter, but to learn how the alterations referred to occurred.

I ask that these papers be transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

General W. T. SHERMAN,
Washington, D. C.

[Copy of telegram as published in the newspapers.]

CHICAGO, October 17, 1879.

To General SHERMAN:

General Merritt says, in a dispatch just received, that he intends to march in pursuit of the hostile Indians to Grand River on the 15th, and from there to the Uncompahgre Agency, where he requests supplies to be sent; subsequently your dispatch of October 13 was sent him, with orders to obey the direction therein given, and I presume this will stop him. Your dispatch should have reached him on the 15th. General Merritt, and General Crook, the department commander, are at a loss to know what to do, and so am I. There are 1,500 or 1,600 men at White River. Their road to the Uncompahgre Agency is over the main range of the Rocky Mountains, and is very bad, and the danger of being caught by winter snow should be seriously entertained. We went to the White River Agency at the solicitation of the Indian Bureau, whose agent was murdered, and

[Copy of telegram as actually sent by General Sheridan.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY
DIVISION, MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 17, 1879.

General W. T. SHERMAN,
Washington, D. C. :

General Merritt says, in a dispatch just received, that he intends to march in pursuit of the hostile Indians to Grand River on the 15th, and from there to the Uncompahgre Agency, where he requests supplies to be sent; subsequently your dispatch of October 13 was sent to him, with orders to obey the directions therein given, and I presume this will stop him. Your dispatch should have reached him on 15th. General Merritt, and General Crook, the department commander, are at a loss to know what to do, and so am I. There are fifteen or sixteen hundred men at White River; the road there is over the main range of the Rocky Mountains; the road is bad, and the danger of being caught by winter snow should be seriously enter-

**From Rawlins.*

our men killed and wounded, and now we are left in the heart of the mountains, with our hands tied and the danger of being snowed in staring us in the face. I am not easily discouraged, but it looks as though we had been pretty badly sold out in this business. It is folly to say that the murderers of the agent and Major Thornburg must be punished. How are they to be punished? Who is going to punish them, and how long are the troops to wait at the agency for it to be done?

I will direct Crook to throw into the agency all the supplies he possibly can as the only course left open.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

tained. We went to the agency at the solicitation of the Indian Bureau, whose agent was murdered, and our men killed and wounded, and now we are left in the heart of the mountains with our hands tied, and the danger of being snowed in staring us in the face. I am not easily discouraged, but it looks as though we had been pretty badly sold out in this business. It is folly to say that the murderers of the agent and Colonel Thornburg must be punished. How are they to be punished, and who is going to punish them? And how long are we to wait at the agency for it to be done?

I will direct Crook to throw into the agency all the supplies he possibly can, as the only course left open.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,

Washington, D. C., October 24, 1879.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 21, inclosing a copy of your correct dispatch of October 17, with a newspaper slip, giving what purports to be a copy of that dispatch. I have now before me the actual telegraph dispatch as received by me, which is identical with the one you sent. The paragraph in the newspaper slip has been altered, but by whom we know not. Your original dispatch reads: "There are fifteen or sixteen hundred men at White River; their road *there* is over the main range of the Rocky Mountains;" whereas the printed slip is—"Their road to the Uncompahgre Agency is over the main range," &c. The error is manifest, and I will send to the Secretary of the Interior a copy of your communication of the 21st, &c.

I also notice that all assert and claim that Merritt's march south from White River was arrested, and he called back by orders from Washington of October 13. I have examined again my dispatch of that date and the inclosures from the Interior Department of same day, neither of which can be construed as a "recall." General Merritt doubtless so construed it, and at that time doubtless saw the difficulties ahead. I still regard his force as in a good position for ulterior events, and that the negotiations by the Secretary of the Interior, by and through General Adams, were clearly within his official province, not subject to our criticisms, and in a measure warranted by the perilous situation of the females still held by the Utes, and the general belief that Chief Douglass and his followers had a claim to forbearance for the few days needed for these negotiations. Time was also needed by you to get Mackenzie's and Hatch's troops in good position for action from the direction of Fort Garland and Fort Lewis.

We are fully conscious that winter is near at hand; that the question is a most difficult one, and that it must be met in the best way possible.

Truly, yours,

W. T. SHERMAN, *General.*

General P. H. SHERIDAN,
Commanding Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., *October 21, 1879.*

CARL SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington D. C. :

Arrived last night at Ouray's camp, and now make preparations to go to the camp of Douglass, between Grand and Gunnison Rivers, with escort of Indians, to secure the captive women and children, who, I have assurance, are safe and will be delivered. Troops should not proceed south from White River meanwhile, as I believe that your conditions to secure peace will be complied with. None of the Southern and only a part of the White River Utes have been engaged in the trouble, and all rumors of depredations off the reservation are untrue, except the driving off of horses from Bear River, and this before Ouray's order to cease fighting was received. Ouray has perfect control of his own people, and the White River Utes are in constant communication with him. All desire peace. I expect to return in six days with the women and children.

CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent.

Governor Pitkin to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

DENVER, COLO., *October 22, 1879.*

HON. CARL SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C. :

Information from Southwestern Colorado satisfies me that most of Ouray's warriors were in the Thornburgh fight. To surrender the criminals, Ouray must surrender his tribe, which he is powerless to do. They adhere to him for protection only, and will not submit to punishment; neither will they surrender White River Utes, who are bound to them by the closest ties, and are no more guilty than themselves. They whipped Thornburgh's command, and now Merritt retires. It cannot be disguised that the fighting men of the tribe are hostile and flushed with victory. They are savages; they take no prisoners except women; their trophies are not banners, but scalps.

If the policy of military inactivity continues, our frontier settlements are liable to become scenes of massacre. Unless the troops move against the Indians, the Indians will move against the settlers. Must three hundred miles of border settlements be subjected to this peril? The general government is doing nothing to defend our settlements. The State cannot defend all this border except by attacking the enemy. In behalf of our people I represent this danger to you, and urge that the government recognize that a war with barbarians now exists, which involves the lives of numerous exposed mining settlements. It can be terminated only by the most vigorous and uninterrupted warfare.

FREDERICK W. PITKIN,
Governor.

Secretary Schurz to Governor Pitkin.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 23, 1879.

Governor PITKIN, *Denver, Colo.:*

Your dispatch received. I intrusted with the important duty of a special agent to the Utes General Charles Adams, a citizen of Colorado, who a month ago was represented to me by yourself as a gentleman of excellent character, uncommon ability and energy, intimately acquainted with the Utes, and eminently qualified to deal with them in an emergency. He is with them now, and his last report was that "none of the Southern and only a part of the White River Utes have been engaged in the trouble, and all rumors of depredations off the reservations are untrue, except the driving off of horses from Bear River, and this before Ouray's order to cease fighting was received." General Adams reports this after having traversed Southwestern Colorado, the source of your information. He also states: "The captive women and children, who I have assurance are safe, will be delivered. Troops should not proceed south from White River, as I believe that your conditions to secure peace will be complied with."

This report of a responsible man, who has your confidence as well as mine and who speaks from personal observation, is certainly entitled to credit. The liberation of the captive women and children is the first thing to be accomplished. General Adams expects to bring them in, if not interfered with, in a few days. He will then also report on the surrender of the guilty Indians.

Meanwhile military preparations are not relaxed, so that a failure of the efforts mentioned may be followed by energetic action. We are endeavoring to prevent a general war with the whole Ute tribe, which will be a better way to protect your border settlements than by a general attack upon the Indians by armed citizens, as your dispatch seems to suggest. It is, therefore, earnestly hoped that every effort will be made to prevent an unnecessary extension of the trouble which may be precipitated by inconsiderate action.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 24, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent, Los Pinos Agency, via Del Norte, Colo.:

A strong body of troops is concentrated in Southwest Colorado; General Merritt's force still at White River; each strong enough to cope with the Utes. If your mission to secure the captive women and children and the surrender of the guilty Indians is not successful, these troops will advance without delay. I telegraph this that you may advise Indians that nothing short of prompt compliance with these two conditions will save them. Your dispatch of eighteenth gave me hope.

C SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

CAMP ON PLATEAU CREEK,
Via Los Pinos, October 21, 1879.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary, Washington, D. C. :*

Arrived here this morning, and have succeeded in persuading Indians to release Mrs. Meeker, Miss Meeker, Mrs. Price, and two children, without condition, who will leave here to-morrow morning for Lake City and Denver with sufficient escort. I go on to White River to communicate with General Merritt. The Indians are anxious for peace and desire a full investigation of the trouble.

CHAS. ADAMS,
Special Agent.

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

CAMP WHITE RIVER, COLORADO, October 24, 1879.
(Via Rawlins, October 25, 1879.)

Hon. CARL SCHURZ,
Secretary, Washington, D. C. :

Arrived here last night, midnight, being met by troops in force 20 miles south. Have consulted with General Merritt, and we agree on further movements. After sending my dispatch of the 21st from Plateau Creek, advising you of the rescue of the women and children without condition, I rode over to the main camp on Grand River and met all the chiefs engaged in the Milk Creek affair and agency massacre. They explained their side, saying that they tried to avoid a fight with Major Thornburgh by inviting him and escort to the agency for a talk and peaceable arrangements, but that this was refused, and that Thornburgh insisted upon fighting as the best mode of settlement; that then the fight inside the line of reservation naturally occurred, about a hundred of the young men under leaders Jack and Johnson being engaged therein; that, further, when a messenger from the front arrived in the main camp between old and new agency reporting the killing and wounding of 20 of the young men, they all, without exception, concluded to kill Agent Meeker, holding him responsible for the loss, and because the evening before he had told them that Major Thornburgh had a wagon full of handcuffs and rope to hang some and put the others in irons; that then, after killing Meeker, one of the employés shot and killed an Indian, and the others barricaded themselves in a building for a fight, and that thereupon they set fire to the building and shot them while escaping therefrom; and that the two parties of freighters on the road were then also killed, after opening fire on the Indians. The Indians lost, killed and died of wounds, during first day, 23; afterwards, in fight with employés and freighters, 14; total, 37. That they consider that in view of this loss and what they call an open and upright fight, they not having molested any settlers, they should be allowed to remain where they are, unmolested by the troops; that the whole affair should be investigated, and if any one is guilty of anything except open and fair fighting, then those to be punished. They claim that they are all equally

Hume
(as Hummy)

interested in what took place, and especially blame Agent Meeker for the determined effort to get them into trouble. Captain Jack was the spokesman on this occasion, and all the others agreed to what he said.

After leaving the hostile camp we met runners, who reported that their lookouts had a fight on the 20th with a hunting party from the camp, brought about accidentally by a scout firing on an Indian 20 miles from here, in which two whites, the scout Hume, and Lieutenant Weir, and two Indians were killed. The Indians claim that they were posted at that place to observe movements of troops, and did not want to fight, and did not until after Hume had killed an Indian.

My conclusions of the whole affair are, that if Major Thornburgh had gone to the agency with escort simply, the whole trouble would have been averted; that the party of young men under Jack went out to fight unknown to the older chiefs, and that the loss of so many young men excited the others so that the killing at the agency could not be averted. It is hard to say at present who should be punished, and only after examining Mrs. Meeker and the others, which so far I have had no opportunity to do, can the full guilt be fastened on any one; but I am satisfied that the attack on Thornburgh was premeditated, and that the leaders should be punished.

I shall return to-morrow to the hostile camp and on to Chief Ouray. Shall explain to him my reasons for thinking attack on Thornburgh premeditated and unnecessary, he having heard only the story of the Indians; shall insist and advise that he bring the leaders to justice, and I think that part may be safely left with him, and think also that they should be given credit for their good treatment of the captives and the delivery of same to me. General Merritt meanwhile will keep the troops here; and I would request in answer to this a final demand or proposition directed to Ouray, which may be sent me via Del Norte to Los Pinos Agency, and which I shall communicate to him, and then, if refused, try to keep him peaceable while General Merritt advances. I have given all information I possess in regard to the country to the latter, and while I know that eventually these Indians will be conquered, I also know that the campaign will be very difficult in winter, and that the settlements on the Gunnison and Middle Park will suffer severely. All these matters might be considered, and further action taken accordingly. I shall be back at Los Pinos by 30th, and expect further instructions there.

CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent.

Agent Stanley to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 23, 1879.

Secretary SCHURZ,
Washington, D. C.:

Women given up. The Utes want peace. Ouray will do all he can. If troops are stopped, he can do much; if not, cannot say how much he can do; he has done much already; his voice and influence is for peace and justice.

STANLEY, *Agent.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 26, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,

Special Agent, Los Pinos Agency, via Del Norte, Colo.:

Dispatch of 24th from White River received. Your dispatch from Plateau Creek also received. The President desires me to express his very high appreciation of the courage and good judgment displayed in the performance of your task.

You will now insist upon the following terms: The White River Utes are to move their camp temporarily to the neighborhood of Los Pinos. A commission consisting of Brevet Major-General Hatch, yourself, and Ouray, to meet at Los Pinos as soon as possible, legal adviser and clerk to be furnished by government, to take testimony to ascertain the guilty parties; the guilty parties so ascertained to be dealt with as white men would be under like circumstances. The White River Utes, or at least the mischievous elements among them, to be disarmed. These terms, approved by the President and General Sherman, are fair, and the most favorable that can be offered. State this to Ouray.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 26, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,

Special Agent, Los Pinos Agency, via Del Norte, Colo.:

Additional instructions, confidential. You will be able to judge whether you can insist upon the disarmament of the White River Utes without breaking up a peaceful arrangement, or whether this condition can be dispensed with without danger. It is highly desirable that it be effected; do it if you can.

After having settled terms, consult Ouray and others, according to your judgment, about measures to prevent trouble in future. Peaceable maintenance of the whole Ute Reservation, considering the heated feeling of people of Colorado, will be hardly possible. Settlement in severalty according to plan discussed by us at Denver; removal of those who will not so settle to consolidated reservation on headwaters of Chama and Navajo Rivers, as agreed upon with commission last year; removal of part of Ute tribe to Uintah or Indian Territory, are among the possibilities. Sound the influential men about this as your judgment may suggest and report. More about this by letter.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., October 27, 1879.

MY DEAR SIR: It gives me heartfelt pleasure to add my thanks for the good services you have rendered to the acknowledgments I tele-

graphed from the President to you yesterday. I am sure you will have the applause of every good man in the country.

In yesterday's telegram I indicated the desirability of a settlement of the Ute troubles, including a thorough change in the condition of that tribe. When I saw you at Denver we discussed the practicability of inducing the Utes to settle down upon agricultural lands in their reservation, in severalty, and to accept individual title in fee-simple inalienable for a period of years, secured by law to be obtained at the ensuing session of Congress. It must be evident to every sensible man among them that the late outbreak and the excitement following thereupon in the State of Colorado have thoroughly changed their relations with the white people of that State, and that it will be very difficult to maintain between them peace and good understanding as long as the present territorial limits of their reservation continue. They will be exposed to all sorts of trouble, and may be subjected to very disastrous consequences if they remain located as they are. In our conversation at Denver a month ago we agreed that their settlement in severalty upon agricultural lands in their reservation, each head of a family and each adult male member of the tribe taking 160 acres, the rest of the land to be disposed of to settlers and miners for the benefit of the Indians, would be calculated to meet the difficulty. It seems probable that under existing circumstances many of them might be induced to settle down in this manner who but a short time ago rejected the idea of working for a living and were determined to adhere to their old ways.

You will undoubtedly have many opportunities to press this idea upon them, and possibly may come to a definite understanding with them to that effect. I desire that you should make every possible effort in that direction. We shall be ready to furnish all those who show a willingness to follow this advice all the necessary agricultural implements, and as large a supply as possible of cattle and other domestic animals; in short, to promote their progress and prosperity in every possible way. This you can state to them.

If there are many still unwilling to do this, even under present circumstances, it will be necessary to get them out of the way of the trouble that will inevitably result from contact with white settlers and mining prospectors. You remember that last year a commission was sent out to induce the Utes to settle near the headwaters of the Chama and Navajo Rivers, and that, while several bands agreed to do so, the White River Utes refused. Congress made no appropriation to carry out the agreement, and thus it dropped for the time being. It might be taken up again now, with the certainty that if the Utes want to remove to that locality, Congress will make the necessary provision at the next session. It is doubtful, however, whether the country indicated will be the best for the Utes, inasmuch as within the limits defined by the commission at that time there seems to be very little land capable of any sort of cultivation. Perhaps you know that country yourself, and can form an opinion upon that subject. It has also occurred to us here that some of the Utes might desire to join their relations at the Uintah Agency. If so, there seems to be not only no objection, but it is rather desirable, inasmuch as it would divide the tribe. Whether there is any prospect of inducing any of the Utes to go to the Indian Territory, you will probably be able to ascertain soon. If I remember rightly, you expressed the opinion to me at Denver that there was not. If they could be prevailed upon to take that step, it would of all solutions be the best. I think it will not be difficult for you to make them understand that now every chance of their continuing their old life of hunters is past, and

that the absolute necessity of going to work and settling down quietly like white people is immediately upon them.

Having full confidence in your judgment, as well as your zeal, I have only to request that, after you have surveyed the field in all directions, you will give me a full report, and your own suggestions as to what will be practicable and advisable, so that thereupon more definite instructions may be forwarded to you.

Very truly, yours,

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General CHAS. ADAMS, &c.

Inspector Pollock to Commissioner Hayt.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., *October 25, 1879.*

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

Latest.—Your telegram of 18th instant this moment received. Brought stenographer from Denver; have investigated agency affairs here; Stanley is not a proper man for agent, but do not think it advisable to change at this time, as matters are quiet here, and Adams is authorized to act. I will to-morrow proceed to Southern Agency in compliance with your telegram of fourteenth. Letter on agency affairs.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOSEN PINOS, COLO., *October 29, 1879.*

HON. C. SCHURZ, *Washington, D. C.:*

Returned here this morning, and had another long council with the Indians on Grand River on the 26th instant. They are willing that the guilty be punished; but it is almost impossible to learn particulars and names of such from them. I have faith in Ouray's ability to compel the surrender, or killing of those found guilty, and in order to ascertain this it seems best that a commission of three, of whom one should be an officer of the Army, say General Crook or Merritt, be sent here to make a thorough investigation, find out the guilty, and determine the punishment. Chief Ouray favors this, and agrees to have the White River chiefs in attendance here.

It don't seem advisable under the circumstances to involve the people of Colorado, living in exposed localities, in the horrors of a border warfare, which would surely take place should these negotiations fail. My argument of great number of troops against them, they meet by rapidity of movements on their part, knowledge of country, and exposed frontier, whereby many innocent whites would suffer, as well as they in the end succumb by being hunted and killed.

I send this while writing an answer to mine of 24th, from White River, and will be guided thereby further.

CHAS. ADAMS,
Special Agent.

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

ALAMOSA, COLO., November 2, 1879.

HON. C. SCHURZ, *Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:*

Your dispatch of 26th was received on 29th, soon after mine of later date had left, it being substantially in accordance with Ouray's and my views of the situation. The terms will be carried out fully upon receipt of dispatch. Couriers were immediately dispatched to the hostile camp with orders to come to Uncompahgre at once, and Ouray thinks that in ten days from that time, or the 8th of November, we will be ready for business.

Although confident that we will succeed, I would advise that the troops now at Garland be sent quietly to Lake City at once, from there to make camp at Indian Creek, on edge of reservation, where they would be only 50 miles from Uncompahgre, within easy reach. I would also ask authority to enlist with pay a number, say 30, Uncompahgre Utes, as a police force for the time being, to guard agency, make arrests, and carry dispatches. I would also suggest that you request Lafayette Head, of Conejos, Colo., lieutenant governor of this State, to act as official interpreter for the commission. Ouray and myself consider him the best man to be obtained. Telegram will reach him via Alamosa. Meanwhile I have come out to consult with General Hatch, and also to take testimony of the late captives, and further telegrams will reach me to-day at Manitou; to-morrow and next day at Denver. Such of the officers as Lieutenant Cherry and Captain Payne, of Thornburgh's command, as can throw light on that fight might be sent here as witnesses without delay. A short-hand reporter should also be provided.

ADAMS, *Agent.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, November 3, 1879.

General ADAMS, *Special Agent, Denver, Colo.:*

Your dispatch from Los Pinos, October 29, and Alamosa, November 2, received. Your action approved. Name of interpreter you suggest is not clear in your dispatch. I authorize you to engage him for the department. Engage also a stenographer there at usual rates. Inspector Pollock had stenographer with him, who may still be within reach; if not, engage another. General Hatch will provide a military officer as legal counsel. Select an agency employé as clerk, if one is needed in addition to stenographer.

You are authorized to select as many Indian policemen as needed, to be paid out of scout fund, \$15 per month, and rations. Call them scouts.

I consulted General Sherman concerning movements of troops. Is this agreed upon between you and Ouray? Care should be taken not to arouse any suspicion with Ouray and Indians generally as to our good faith. Is the whole force of 1,500 men, or only part of them, wanted at Lake City and Indian Creek? The movement of troops be-

ing attended with trouble and expense, General Sherman desires answer to these questions before issuing orders. Is there danger that excited people in Colorado may still try to precipitate conflict? I leave it to your judgment to inform Governor Pitkin, confidentially, that a settlement of the Ute question in accordance with interests of people of Colorado, but also just to Indians, is earnestly intended, but the matter of surrender must be disposed of first; and that interference by authorities or people of Colorado would be most unwise, and cannot be tolerated.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

DENVER, COLO., November 4, 1879.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:*

In answer to yours of yesterday, would state that I did not consult Ouray about moving troops from Garland to Lake City, inasmuch as I did not know that any troops were there, supposing all to be with General Hatch, at Pagosa; but I know that he would be satisfied, if some, say 300, would be near to the agency, without being on reservation; they being at Garland practically of no value, should any trouble occur, which is not anticipated, but may take place. If Lake City is too near reservation, say four or five companies of cavalry might go 20 miles above town of Saguache, where they would be eighty minutes near, and Indians would not know it.

If, however, this movement should be attended with too much cost, we might wait until November 8, and, if then necessary, the movement may be made. I should like to have them nearer, without making Indians suspicious. As to feeling in Colorado, I think the commission will be given a fair opportunity to settle the trouble. I had a long interview with Pitkin, and informed him fully of your instructions and your hopes in the interest of Colorado, and he wishes me to state that he will give me all assistance in his power for success. I have asked him to keep the newspapers quiet. The people are all right. Will go to Greeley today, where Meekers are, and return to-morrow, south.

C. ADAMS, *Special Agent.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

ALAMOSA, COLO., November 4, 1879.

To the SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

Learn Adams is in Denver. From what department is the expense to be paid of clerk and taking evidence, as directed in telegram? Can the interest-money due the Utes, some of which is now in my hands, be used for this purpose?

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

DENVER, COLO., November 4, 1879.

Hon. CARL SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:

The examination, under oath, of the late captives discloses such brutal and barbarous treatment of them (particulars by mail), in which Chiefs Douglass and Johnson with others are implicated, and which has been unknown and unexpected to me (as I also believe to Ouray), that I fear now, with living witnesses against them, that perhaps they will not obey Ouray's order, and troops will probably have to be used against them. Still, in order to carry out our arrangement, I shall go back to Los Pinos, as if nothing further had transpired; shall notify Ouray, and look the situation over, and, for the reasons stated, the cavalry now at Fort Garland should make a forward movement to Indian Creek, either via Saguache or Lake City, and they can be stopped, if necessary, after consultation with Ouray; but I now consider it more probable that they will have to be used, while before this investigation I thought otherwise. I have just heard from General Hatch, and anything to me tomorrow will be forwarded to me from here.

CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent.

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 5, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,

Special Agent, Denver, Colo.:

Your dispatch of yesterday received. I conferred about it with General Sherman. He had received the following telegram from Colonel Mackenzie:

I received this morning the following message from Special Agent Adams, that he, Mr. Adams, telegraphed to Washington to have the troops now at Fort Garland sent to Lake City, where the Ute peace commission sit. He, Mr. Adams, thought the movement would take place in a few days. My own experience and judgment leads me to believe that any such movement until the peace commission has entirely completed its labors will be peculiarly objectionable.

General Sherman and myself are of the same opinion. It appears to us that the success of your commission depends greatly upon Ouray's influence, and that his influence is more likely to be weakened than strengthened by threatening military movements, which cannot be kept secret from the Indians. Anything that can be construed as bad faith on our part may defeat a peaceable settlement. The troops would be moved for one of two purposes, either to operate promptly against the Indians if the commission fails, or to insure the safety of the commission. In the first case it is thought that the troops could advance and operate from their present position quickly enough as soon as the failure of the commission is certain. They have orders to that effect. As to the safety of the commission, troops 50 miles from them will be too far to do any immediate good, while their advance might have the same

effect as in the Thornburgh case. You will have to depend largely upon the fidelity of Ouray and his people. Ascertain his feelings about this matter.

Your apprehension that Douglass and Johnson with living witnesses against them will not obey Ouray's order and make the use of troops necessary seems to leave out of account the circumstance that those witnesses were in their power and they surrendered them unconditionally. A favorable arrangement as to the future location of the Utes will be calculated to somewhat mitigate the punishment of guilty parties. You will be better able to judge when you see whether White River Utes have obeyed Ouray's order to come to Los Pinos. Establish a line of reliable runners between Los Pinos and Del Norte for the rapid transmission of information. I need scarcely impress upon you the great importance to the country of the success of your mission. Your courage and judgment have so far won such applause throughout the country that a failure of peaceable settlement now would be a great disappointment as well as disaster. You must not fail. I express my opinion frankly; do the same.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., November 6, 1879.

C. SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:

Your dispatch of yesterday received. All right. Will do the best I can, and still hope to be successful. My own life is nothing, if war can be averted from Colorado.

C. ADAMS, *Special Agent.*

Agent Stanley to Commissioner Indian Affairs.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS INDIAN AGENCY, COLO.,
November 3, 1879.

COMMISSIONER INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, D. C.:

How shall the White River Utes be subsisted while at this agency, also others, during the sitting of the proposed commission at this place?

STANLEY, *Agent.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 8, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,

Special Agent, Los Pinos Agency, via Del Norte, Colo.:

Agent Stanley inquires whether White River Utes, while commission is sitting, are to be fed. My opinion is that they are entitled to nothing.

They took 1,700 head of cattle from White River, and destroyed other supplies. The cattle may keep them alive for some time. If want makes them feel what they have done, so much the better. I leave it, however, to the commission, to decide whether the granting or withholding of supplies will be best calculated to make them surrender the guilty and accede to other conditions. Perhaps the alternative of supplies if they yield, or starvation if they don't, may have a strong effect. Communicate the judgment of the commission on this point to Agent Stanley, who will act accordingly. Show this to Stanley as answer to his dispatch. Keep in mind that according to treaty all those members of Ute tribe who commit hostilities against the government lose their treaty rights. Your success is earnestly hoped for.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, November 10, 1879.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C. :

Arrived here yesterday and immediately proceeded to Chief Ouray's house, where I met about twenty of the chiefs and head men of White River Utes, who had come in in obedience to Ouray's orders. The others are expected. The camp of these Indians is about 50 miles distant on Gunnison River.

Nothing is changed in situation here. Chief Ouray is positive that when satisfied of the guilt of Indians, he will have power enough to arrest and hold them. Remained all night with them and returned here to-day.

I expect General Hatch and attachés of commission to-morrow, and that the work of taking testimony may proceed at once. I shall have a number of Indian witnesses in attendance.

I should desire the immediate presence of Captain Payne, Lieutenant Cherry, Scout Rankin, and such others of Thornburgh's command as can testify in the case; also official copies of correspondence between Meeker and Thornburgh and Meeker and the department.

Since coming back here am satisfied that your views as expressed in telegram of 5th instant were correct and wise, and in case of failure we shall have plenty of time to warn settlers, and it is always time to commence war. I shall try to push the work of the commission, and shall keep you advised constantly.

C. ADAMS, *Commissioner.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

November 14, 1879.

SIR: In accordance with your request I transmit herewith certified copies of papers on file in the Indian Office relative to the recent out-

break of White River Utes; also copy of the letter of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs transmitting said papers to this department.

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent, &c., Los Pinos, Colo.

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., November 14, 1879.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,
Secretary, Washington, D. C. :

The commission is now organized, and Chiefs Douglass, Johnson, and Sawawick are in attendance to give testimony. All is going smoothly.

C. ADAMS, *Special Agent.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 15, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,
Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo. :

Papers have been mailed, and Captain Payne and Lieutenant Cherry ordered to appear. Scout Rankin is at Rawlius, and says he will appear if his expenses are paid, he not being in government service. Is his appearance thought important? Does the commission recommend anything with regard to Jack, reported to have gone to Uintah; or can Ouray manage his case? He should, if possible, be brought in.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, November 15, 1879.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C. :

We have been in session the fourth day, and have examined some of the hostile chiefs without result whatever. They, evidently, have resolved among themselves not to criminate others, while they protest their own innocence. Chief Ouray, however, asks for time, and we think it best to proceed slowly. Inasmuch as this plea may be made for indefinite period, I would request instructions on that question. The commission, under your instructions, has ordered Agent Stanley to

issue rations to such of the White River Utes as have been brought here by Ouray as witnesses, and to none others.

C. ADAMS, *Special Agent.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 17, 1879.

General CHAS. ADAMS,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos, via Lake City, Colo.:

Dispatch of 15th received. The artifice of the chiefs is too transparent. The following declaration might be made by commission: The agent and employés have been murdered. Thornburgh's command was attacked. Nobody else was there to do this but the White River Utes. If they will not disclose who is responsible, they must all be held responsible, forfeit their treaty rights, and be otherwise dealt with as the government may determine. The testimony of individual members of White River band may thus be obtained. Every effort should be made to accomplish this. The testimony of captive women is also material. Finally, the commission will have to make up their minds as to who the guilty parties are, and ask Ouray to give them up. Take your own time. If you accomplish your object a few days make no difference. Directions of commission as to rations are approved.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 18, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos, via Lake City, Colo.:

It appears to me that you should go to the people of White River Utes instead of the chiefs. I did not expect that the chiefs would criminate themselves. Their people will have to consider whether they will sacrifice themselves for the responsibility of their chiefs. Probably you can reach those people by some of Ouray's Indians. The solution may be found in this direction. Do not give up until every expedient is exhausted.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, November 17, 1879.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:

Ouray has proposed, and I heartily agree with him, that after the commission has taken testimony, it adjourn to Washington to make its

report, accompanied by about eight or ten of the principal chiefs, including, say, Douglass, Sawonick, and Jack, from White River. I think this best for the reason that a final settlement of all the difficulties, including the reservation and removal question, had better be decided at the seat of government and while Congress is in session; thinking this in accordance with the wish expressed by you in our personal interview at Denver, I favor the plan. General Hatch, president of the commission, telegraphs you also.

CHAS. ADAMS,
Special Agent.

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., November 17, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

Chief Ouray this morning asks for time, and believe it is the interest of the government to take to Washington such chiefs as we may designate, not to exceed ten, including some of the leading White River chiefs. In the mean time, while waiting for your answer, we will continue to take such testimony as we can obtain here and elsewhere.

HATCH, Colonel.

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLO.,
November 18, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

Commission will take testimony of officers and men now at White River, on its way out, at some convenient point. To save expense and time, Ouray promises to bring Jack here in six days; will take him to Washington, if that course is approved. I concur with General Adams that this is the best plan now presented.

HATCH, Colonel.

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 19, 1879.

To General HATCH,
Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

Ouray's proposition to come to Washington with some chiefs is acceptable, with the proviso that we cannot receive here as delegates any White River Utes who were connected with the crimes committed there. Their talk before the commission as if no crimes had been committed

to their knowledge is the merest trifling. Ouray cannot expect the government to accept such testimony, or to act upon any assumption so absurd.

There can be no doubt that Douglas, Jack, and the other White River chiefs know who attacked Thornburgh and who massacred the agency people. Their concerted efforts to shield the guilty parties by the transparent plea of ignorance as to the well-known facts, raises a strong presumption against themselves, and they are therefore not fit men to treat with. They can clear themselves so as to be received here only by pointing out and surrendering the guilty parties. They must all be made to understand that unless this is done the whole tribe must be held responsible and be dealt with accordingly. You may assure Ouray that his loyalty is highly appreciated by the government and his advice always welcome, but the question whether the guilty parties must be found and surrendered, in failure of which the tribe must be proceeded against, is not open for negotiation.

Ouray's visit here can have only two objects, to recommend mercy in individual cases, and then his recommendation will be received with respect; and secondly, to discuss with us what arrangements are to be made for the Utes hereafter. If the commission has any further facts or views to state with regard to the delegation, do so without delay. Can you advise what should be done in case Ouray and the loyal chiefs come away to insure good conduct on the part of the White River leaders? The commission, if they have reason to think themselves in danger, must follow their own judgment in taking such steps as their safety may require. I earnestly hope you will succeed.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY,
November 19, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

In answer to dispatch of 17th, yesterday, the commission was assured that all of the White River Utes would come in and give their full testimony. The Indians' attempt at dodging is well understood by the commission, who have demanded a different course on the part of the Indians. Ouray has ordered all the Indians in here by the 24th. We shall then arrive at the fact or close the commission with the demand intimated in your letter.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLO.,
November 21, 1879.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:

In answer to yours of 18th, just received, will state that I do not propose to give up, as I know from all my dealings with them that be-

fore a point can be gained the case often looked hopeless and yet was accomplished. The snow is very deep on the mountains now, and has put an end to military movements for this winter, so that while I am urging the Indians as much as possible, and threaten as much as I dare, I know some delay will be in our favor.

CHAS. ADAMS.

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 22, 1879.

GENERAL HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo. :

Your dispatch of 19th received. When you have all the White River Utes under your influence, it may be well to have them understand, in the way of suggestion without making formal promises, that those who merely took part in the fight at Milk Creek at the instigation of their leaders, will be considered first entitled to mercy, if they now promptly comply with the demands of the government. This is the real intention here, but it seems proper to leave Ouray the opportunity of interceding in their behalf. This will probably facilitate the identification and surrender of the really guilty parties. You seem now on the road to success. Take your own time.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY,
November 24, 1879.

C. SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C. :

We have information the White River Utes are on their way, including Jack. We are now of opinion that we shall be successful in carrying out your wishes. At all events, we have patience enough to try it. So far as the danger is concerned, the commission have not given that a thought; they must take their chances.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLO.,
November 25, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, D. C. :

No new developments to-day since dispatch of yesterday.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLO.,
November 26, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

All investigation was stopped this morning by runners from the White River Utes, who state runners from the Uintah Utes say troops were moving to Uintah Agency, to make prisoners, and all Uintahs had left for camps of White River Utes, who now refuse to come in until assured this is not true. Indians are informed this is false. Troops are instructed not to advance during present negotiations. Advance of troops closes any further business here. Ouray thinks the story is an invention of the Mormon element, who are doing all in their power to create serious trouble. This will delay the commission six days, until the White River runners return from the Uintah Agency.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Secretary Schurz to Agent Stanley.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 24, 1879.

Agent STANLEY,
Los Pinos, via Lake City, Colo.:

It is reported in the newspapers that you are interfering with the business of the commission. You are positively forbidden to do so. You will refer Ouray and all other Indians speaking to you about the pending difficulty to the commission.

O. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 24, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,
Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Col.:

It is reported that Agent Stanley is interfering with the work of the commission. Is this so? He has positive orders to abstain from such interference, and to refer all Indians speaking to him about the pending difficulty to the commission.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY,
Los Pinos Agency, November 28, 1879.

C. SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C. :

Agent Stanley continues to interfere; yesterday he received and receipted for money stolen by Douglass during the Meeker massacre, and did not notify the commission, but secretly opened correspondence with Mrs. Meeker in regard thereto. By such action the Indians are led to believe that the surrender of stolen property might be taken in extenuation of their crimes, which we have steadily refused. You can see that whether Stanley does this through ignorance, or want of discretion, or motives of his own, he is working directly against us, and unless the Indians are given to understand that his course is disapproved they will continue to believe that Agent Stanley can give them better terms than we can.

CHAS. ADAMS.

Secretary Schurz to Agent Stanley.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 30, 1879.

General STANLEY,

Los Pinos, via Lake City, Colo. :

You are ordered to report here at the Indian Office without delay. Leave the clerk in charge of the agency. Turn over to commission all correspondence relating to White River difficulty. Do not delay your departure a moment.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 29, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo. :

I wish you would endeavor to ascertain in your inquiries whether the Mormons are really responsible for the mischief reported by you on 26th. Your perseverance deserves great praise, and we still hope you will succeed.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, November 29, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

The advance of the White River Utes are coming in. Word is sent us, there seems to be more in the Mormon influence than we first supposed.

HATCH, *Commissioner.**Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.*

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 1, 1879.General HATCH,
Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

Dispatch of November 29 received. Impress as strongly as possible upon Indians Article 6 of Ute treaty of '68, by which they explicitly bind themselves to surrender offenders, in failure of which the tribe makes itself responsible for violation of treaty and forfeits all its treaty rights.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.**General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.*

[Telegram.]

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY,
*Los Pinos Agency, November 28, 1879.*SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

Shall I pay members and recorder of commission \$5 per diem? No arrangement made by agent to provide food and lodging here.

E. HATCH, *Commissioner.**Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.*

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 30, 1879.General HATCH,
Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

You may pay members and recorder of commission as requested in your dispatch of 28th. Agent Stanley has been ordered to Washington

without delay. The clerk will take charge of the Agency and is instructed to give the commission every possible accommodation and to refrain strictly from all interference with its business.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, *December 1, 1879.*

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

The Indians continue to come in and seem inclined to testify more freely.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, *December 3, 1879.*

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

All the hostiles including Jack have arrived this morning. Matters are improving, though no one can predict what the Indians may do at present.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, *December 7, 1879.*

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

Closed testimony yesterday; demanded parties recognized at massacre; the list includes head chief Douglass. The Indians went into council last night and are now in council; will answer to-morrow. Present indications are that they will accept the ultimatum, surrender of the guilty or annihilation of the tribe. The Indians consider death incidental to surrender and trial. The struggle among themselves has assumed serious proportions. The influence so far is in favor of surrender. A trifle may change this any moment.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, *December 6, 1879.*

C. SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C. :

The Indians have given their answer. They will surrender the guilty parties if they be tried in Washington. They believe they cannot have a fair trial in Colorado or New Mexico; that the people of Colorado were all their enemies. The White River chiefs leave to bring the parties demanded. We wait your decision before leaving.

HATCH, *Commissioner.**Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.*

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 8, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo. :

I congratulate the commission on the success achieved. I shall lay the matter before the Cabinet to-morrow and then advise you of the decision.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.**Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.*

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 9, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo. :

Receive the surrender of the Indians designated by your commission, with the understanding that they will be guaranteed a fair trial by a military commission outside of Colorado and New Mexico. Inform Ouray that he will be received here with four or five Uncompahgres, three Southren Utes, and three White River Utes. Take care that good and influential men be selected, especially from the White River Utes. It will probably be desirable to have Jack here. Take possession of the prisoners with a military guard to convey them in the first place to Fort Leavenworth.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 9, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

Confidential. It is preferred not to bring the prisoners to Washington for trial. Fort Leavenworth would in many respects be more convenient. Try to arrange it so. But if it is essential to procure the surrender you may consent to have them brought for trial to the Department of the East, in which Washington is situated, in which case the trial might be had at Fortress Monroe.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

LOS PINOS AGENCY, December 10, 1879.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, D. C.:

The Indians, in their request to be tried in Washington, mean by Washington the general government; are willing to be tried anywhere out of Colorado; state through Ouray that they may as well be hung to the trees at agency as to be taken to Denver. Ouray says, as we have demanded all the names mentioned by the women, they have made a mistake, which will be known at trial, but that they will serve the proper persons as soon as ascertained who they are. They turn over all Indians mentioned by the women.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LAKE CITY, COLO., December 13, 1879.

C. SCHURZ,

Secretary of Interior:

General Hatch having taken charge of prisoners and other arrangements for chiefs to go to Washington, and there being nothing to do for me at Los Pinos, I left that place. Am ready to return to my post-office duties. Any further instructions will reach me at Manitou. From there I will advise you of my opinion in regard to further negotiations with the Indians by letter.

C. ADAMS.

Secretary Schurz to Mr. Adams.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 15, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent, Alamoso, Colo.:

Your dispatch of 13th received. Last dispatch from General Hatch is of the 10th. Have received nothing definite about surrender of prisoners. Were they surrendered when you left, and what was state of affairs then? I desire to have you here, together with the delegation, and hear your opinion concerning further negotiations. Please answer immediately.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Mr. Adams to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

SOUTH PUEBLO, COLO., December 16, 1879.

CARL SCHURZ,
Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C.:

Yours of yesterday just received, while traveling home. Your dispatch of 9th was received by us on 11th and communicated to Ouray who immediately left for camp of White River Utes to hurry up their movements. Before the receipt of your dispatch one of the twelve designated by us, a son of Douglass, had been brought in, but we instructed Ouray to keep him and others until the full number was ready to be delivered. Before I left I understood that a few others were at his house, but not all, which was hardly to be expected, as only five days had elapsed, with snow very deep, traveling slow, and the Indians much scattered. I consider the surrender an accomplished fact, and cannot think of a possibility that it be prevented, although General Hatch may be delayed in bringing them out, as the snowfall in that country has been unprecedented and transportation can hardly be obtained. Further negotiations in Washington as to the reservation will be easier of accomplishment than our task so far. Will write you fully.

CHAS ADAMS.

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, AGENCY, COLO.,
December 13, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

Ouray has left for the bands of White River Utes, to assist in bringing in the Indians demanded. It is now as certain that the Indians will be surrendered as any arrangements can be relied upon with Indians. Adams left for Denver yesterday.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

LOS PINOS, AGENCY, December 22, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

If necessary, will you authorize one of the agency employes to go on with Indians?

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 24, 1879.

General HATCH,
Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, Colo.:

Yes. Select any one that can be temporarily spared.

C. SCHURZ.

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, December 20, 1879.

SECRETARY OF INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

Ouray returned from White River Utes this morning; has given the tribe until the 23d to bring in the prisoners. We shall know then whether they will be given up. There is a serious division in the tribe.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR,
Washington, December 22, 1879.

General HATCH,
Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

Your dispatch of 20th received. Do not permit Ouray and White River Utes to indulge in any doubt as to the inevitable consequences of a refusal to surrender the parties pointed out by the commission in violation of this treaty.

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

LOS PINOS, AGENCY, COLO.,
December 24, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

Jack, Colorow, Sawawick, of the White River Utes, came in yesterday with part of prisoners. I refused to accept any if not all, and informed the chiefs should leave on 28th; would receive the prisoners at Kline's or any point on the road. It was impressed upon them that they had solemnly agreed to accept the terms decided upon in council; that the chiefs of the other tribes present with the White River Utes would be held responsible for the consequence; that the government was lenient, and would accept nothing less. No assurance can now be sent you that these prisoners will be turned over. Either the prisoners have escaped, or the chiefs have not the power to take them. Ouray attributes much of the trouble to Mormon influence. It is apparent the war spirit is increasing. I had secured transportation for the Indians, which shall now discharge, as it may be impossible to go over the range. The chiefs are willing enough to go. If you have any instructions, please answer early.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 26, 1879.

GENERAL HATCH,
Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

Your dispatch of 24th received. I desire to communicate it to the President who is absent. Await further answer at Los Pinos.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

[Telegram.]

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 26, 1879.

General HATCH,
Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

Your position taken in the talk with the chiefs is in the main approved. It is thought possible, however, that the chiefs made a last attempt at bargaining, while really feeling the necessity of surrender. Your dispatch does not state how many and which of the parties designated by commission were brought in. If nine or ten of the principal culprits, Douglass included, are given up, the terms may be considered substantially complied with. The escape of two or three individuals of minor importance is of little consequence if the principal culprits are surrendered. You know who they are. I write this after consultation with the President, the Secretary of War, and General Sherman, and we are all

agreed upon these instructions. We do not want a war if it can be honorably avoided. A war would be difficult and very costly in every respect, and for more than two months military operations are impossible. Time spent in endeavors to secure peace on our terms is therefore not time lost. General Sherman is decided in the opinion that even under the worst circumstances, procrastination would now be good policy. While the dignity of the government must not be compromised, and while your threat to leave may possibly have been the best thing to bring about full compliance with our terms, no possibility of peaceable settlement should be thrown away until every expedient is exhausted. The arrangements with the Utes which are to follow the prevention of war, are of equal if not greater importance for the future. I trust to your good judgment to manage things without precipitation, so that notwithstanding difficulties the good end be still accomplished. Nobody expected the surrender to be very prompt and cheerful, but it is not thought impossible now.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 27, 1879.

General HATCH:

Ute Commission, Los Pinos via Lake City, Colo.:

The press dispatch in this morning's papers seems to suggest that you desire to go to Kline's ranch for reasons of convenience. In that case do not understand my dispatch of last night as opposing that movement if you can carry out instructions there as well as at Los Pinos. Please telegraph more fully about state of things.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

LOS PINOS AGENCY,
December 26, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

If Indians fail to turn over prisoners on 28th, have decided to take five chiefs out of Indian country; three of them, Southern chiefs, ordered here. Ouray says he must go. There is strong opposition from war party to commission leaving until terms can be obtained from government as Indians desire. Telegraph Indian Creek if you wish Indian chiefs to go further. White River Utes came in yesterday, wanting rations. Sherman in charge referred them to me for authority to issue. I refused until they comply with agreement.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

[Telegram.]

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 30, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Indian Creek or Los Pinos, via Lake City, Colo.:

The friendly chiefs you have selected are to come to Washington. It is understood that no White River Utes can be received here unless the surrender is effected. Make all the necessary arrangements as to interpreter and employé to accompany those coming.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 28, 1879.

To General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos on Indian Creek, via Lake City, Colo.:

Let no rations be issued to White River Utes so long as our terms are not complied with. Follow your own judgment as to taking chiefs out of Indian country. The question whether they are to be brought here is reserved for decision according to circumstances. Telegraph more fully to give me a clear view of the situation.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

CLIFF'S RANCH, COLO., December 29, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, D. C.:

Cline's Ranch is ten miles nearer the camps of the White River Utes than the agency and twenty-four miles nearer Lake City. My object in coming here was to show the Indians I intended to leave and not to have them come to agency with their families, where we should be forced to give them rations. There is not enough there now for the Uncompahgres. The Indians in the hands of Ouray of those demanded were Douglass, Johnny, Thomas, Peter, Auctewee, Pansitz. It will be necessary for me to take my men and teams over the mountains before it is too late. I am already obliged to abandon my wagons, and cannot subsist my animals without great expense. I can return myself.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 29, 1879.

General HATCH,
*Ute Commission, Indian Creek
or Los Pinos, via Lake City, Colo. :*

Dispatch in papers this morning speaks of danger to your personal safety. If such danger exists, you will, of course, consider yourself fully authorized to take any steps your safety may require irrespective of former instructions. If, surrender failing, you have brought Indian chiefs with you to Los Pinos, keep them at such place as you may select until further instructions as to their being taken here, which will be sent to-morrow.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

CLINE'S RANCH, COLO., December 30, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C. :

Last night Ouray came with Jack, Sawawick, and some of the White River Utes, the southern chiefs who were at Los Pinos as hostages for the good conduct of the White River Utes. I have decided to take Jack, Sawawick, and Sam with me. I can then return, if required, to again negotiate for the prisoners. I have decided as long as these chiefs are held, these Indians will not break out. The Indians demanded, on being informed no rations would be issued until the tribe complied with the demand of the government, left for the Lower Grand River to hunt. It will require a month to hunt them up.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

CLINE'S RANCH, COLO., December 30, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C. :

Yours 30th received. By taking the White River chiefs the Indians will be quiet. Guerro, with his band of Uncompahgres, it seems, advised the White River Indians not to go as prisoners, but to leave at once. He gives more trouble than others, and recommended holding the commission.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 31, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Cline's Ranch, via Lake City, Colo.:

Your three telegrams of the 29th and 30th received. It is much to be regretted that your dispatches were not more explicit before.

I learn now for the first time that among those actually offered for surrender were Chief Douglass and others of the principal culprits. Your last dispatches are not clear on the following points:

Am I to understand that the order not to feed the White River Utes was construed by you as meaning that the prisoners offered should not be fed, and for this reason they were permitted to go on a distant hunt?

Did you propose to bring White River chiefs, in case of failure of the surrender, away with you to be taken to Washington, or for what purpose?

Telegraph explicit information to clear up these uncertainties, and do not send on any chiefs as telegraphed yesterday, until I am clearly advised of state of things, and can instruct accordingly.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

LAKE CITY, COLO., *January 2, 1880.*

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C.:

I arrived here to-night. Received your dispatch of 30th at Indian Creek. Send Indians forward by way of Saguache as directed. Received here your dispatch of 31st. The understanding was clear with the Indians, when they turned over the prisoners they were to be rationed and their families during their absence. When the Utes made the agreement I certainly supposed it would be kept. It is the only one they have ever broken with me. It was evident that the war spirit was increasing when I left the agency; it was my intention to take some of the chiefs with me to prevent any demonstration from the young men. I informed the Indians I should take them as far as Indian Creek, and to Washington if you wished them to go. Your telegram, stating you wished the negotiations prolonged, made it important [to keep] these Indians with me. As long as we have them in our hands there is no danger of an outbreak of them. If you will inform me at Alamosa what you wish done with the Indians; also, dispatch to be read to the Indians of what you have determined, I can send back one of the Indians. Insist upon the terms, and contract [protract] this policy as long as you wish. I therefore do not yet give up the hope they will turn the prisoners over; prefer, however, that the Indians who return should visit the camp at Garland. Do you wish any evidence taken? None has yet been taken from witness of Thornburgh's command. I have endeavored to explain as explicitly as possible.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

Secretary Schurz to General Hatch.

[Telegram.]

WASHINGTON, January 2, 1880.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Lake City :

(If Hatch has left forward to Alamosa, Colo.)

Yours of this date received. Please answer the following questions : Are the White River Utes offered for surrender still in Ouray's power, or where are they ? What chiefs are with you, and to what bands do they belong ? Yours of December 24th, announcing offer of part of prisoners for surrender was understood as meaning that only a few insignificant Indians had been brought in. Had you reported before refusing them that Chief Douglass, his son, and others of consequence were among them, you would have been instructed to keep them, and then try for the rest. Is there prospect of getting them now ? You express hope that surrender may still be obtained. Can, in your opinion, anything be done from here to that end, and what ? Your proposition to take the chiefs who are with you to camp at Garland is approved. I shall send dispatch to be read to the Indians when I have received your answer to this. You will also have instructions as to sending delegation to Washington.

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

ALAMOSA, COLO., January 3, 1880.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, D. C. :

The White River Utes who were with Ouray on the 24th are not in his power, neither have they been since the 26th. The Indians sent out by way of Saguache—Ouray, Wash, Charlie (Uncompahgres); Jack, Sawawick, Uncle Sam, Charlie (White River Utes); Toputche, Camatche, Alexandre, Wimmamache, Aginla, and Buckskin Charlie (of the Muache)—expected here on the 5th. Ouray was requested to keep the Indians you refer to, but had not the power. I am of opinion that the Indians, when assured by yourself that there is no other way to avoid destruction, will decide to turn over the prisoners. The promise made by them that they will turn over those demanded should be insisted upon to the last man. As long as these Indians are in our hands the agency at Los Pinos is secure. Ouray came out at his own request; brought his wife with him. I think it advisable to have them all before you at Washington, or such point as you may designate.

HATCH,
Commissioner.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

General Hatch to Secretary Schurz.

[Telegram.]

ALAMOSA, COLO., *January 4, 1880.*

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, D. C. :

Adams arrived last night; advises all the Indians be taken to Washington at once on arrival here.

HATCH,
Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 3, 1880.

SIR: By department reference I have the honor to be in receipt of Senate resolution of the 8th ultimo, calling "for copies of all correspondence, by letters or telegrams, between the Secretary of the Interior, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and N. C. Meeker, late Indian agent at White River Agency, since the 1st day of January, 1879, and also copies of all correspondence, by letters or telegrams, between the said Secretary of the Interior, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and General Hatch, General Adams, the governor of Colorado, Special Agent Pollock, of and concerning the Ute Indians in Colorado."

The papers called for by above resolution are respectfully forwarded herewith.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
September 15, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to invite your attention to the inclosed copy of letter of this date from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs; with inclosure therein noted, in relation to insubordination of the Indians at White River Agency, Colorado, in assaulting and driving the agent, N. C. Meeker, from his agency.

In view of the state of affairs at said agency, as communicated, I respectfully request that the commandant of the nearest military post may be instructed by telegraph to detail a sufficient guard for the arrest of such of the Indians as may be found implicated in the disturbance, and that the ringleaders be held as prisoners until the matter has been thoroughly investigated.

Very respectfully,

A. BELL,
Acting Secretary.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 15, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a telegram, dated

10th instant, from United States Agent N. C. Meeker, of the White River Agency, Colorado, who states that he has been assaulted by a leading Indian chief, Johnson, forced from his home, and badly injured, but was rescued by his employés, and that they are in danger of losing their lives, and requests protection.

I respectfully recommend that the matter be referred to the honorable Secretary of War, with the request that he cause the necessary orders to issue to the commandant of the nearest military post to the agency to detail a sufficient number of troops to arrest such Indian chiefs as are insubordinate, and enforce obedience to the requirements of the agent and afford him such protection as the exigency of the case requires; also that the ringleaders be held as prisoners until an investigation can be had.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLO.,
September 10, 1879.

SIR: I have been assaulted by a leading chief, Johnson, forced out of my own house, and injured badly, but was rescued by employés. It is now revealed that Johnson originated all the trouble stated in letter September 8. His son shot at the plowman, and the opposition to plowing is wide. Plowing stops; life of self, family, and employés not safe; want protection immediately; have asked Governor Pitkin to confer with General Pope.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

L. A. HAYT,
Commissioner, &c., Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 29, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a telegram this day received from General Hatch, dated Los Pinos Agency, Colorado, November 26, 1879, in relation to information received through "runners," in relation to movements and intentions of Uintah and White River Utes, based upon rumors in relation to the advance of the troops against them, which rumors are believed to be circulated by the Mormons.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLO.,
November 26, 1879.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C. :

All investigation was stopped this morning by rumors from the White River Utes, who state runners from the Uintah Utes say troops were

moving to Uintah Agency, to make prisoners, and all Uintahs had left for camps on White River. Utes now refuse to come in until assured this is not true. Indians are informed this is false. Troops are instructed not to advance during present negotiations. Advance of troops closes any further business here. Ouray thinks the story is an invention of the Mormon element, who are doing all in their power to create serious trouble. This will delay the commission six days, until the White River runners return from the Uintah Agency.

HATCH, *Commissioner.*

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, November 28, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of telegram from Col. Edward Hatch, commissioner, dated the 24th instant, asking if it is the intention to move at once upon the hostile Indians upon their refusal or failure to turn over the guilty parties; also copy of the reply of the General of the Army thereto.

Very respectfully,

GEO. W. McCRARY,
Secretary of War.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, *November 24, 1879.*
(Received 10.05 p. m.)

To General W. T. SHERMAN,
Washington, D. C.:

Is it the intention to move at once upon the hostile Indians, upon refusal or failure to turn over the guilty Indians. I think it important we should know it; in thirty days it will be too late to supply troops over the mountains. Ouray, who thinks he can turn over the guilty, wants thirty days delay.

HATCH,
Colonel and Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D. C., November 25, 1879.

To General P. H. SHERIDAN,
Commanding Division, Chicago, Ill.:

I received your dispatch of yesterday, announcing your recovery and return to your office, and of course am delighted.

General Ed. Hatch telegraphs me direct from Los Pinos, under date of 23d, asking if it be the intention to move at once upon the hostile Indians, upon their refusal or failure to turn over the guilty parties. I prefer that he, as commissioner, should not report to me direct or inquire about intentions. No military order will go from Washington to any one but to you, and no such orders are contemplated until the Interior Department makes a formal written demand on the War Department for action.

If winter be then too far advanced for military operations, then we must wait, as we cannot be responsible for the weather or for the mountains. In the end the guilty must be punished.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
September 2, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of a letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated the 1st instant, and a copy of a letter from Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, respecting depredations committed by Indians belonging to the said agency.

I beg to call your attention to the recommendation of the Commissioner, and to urge that you comply with the same if possible.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BELL,
Acting Secretary.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 1, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a letter dated 11th ultimo, from United States Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, respecting depredations committed by Indians of his agency, and difficulties in his way in keeping them upon the reservation, without military aid. The agent states that the large majority of them are constantly off the reservation, and intimately associated with the ruffians, renegades, and cattle thieves of the frontier," and he is of opinion that these outlaws, aided by the Indians, will make raids on the herds of government cattle during the coming winter. The agent also calls attention to the evils resulting to the Indians from the unlawful traffic in ammunition and liquor by traders whose stores are on Snake and Bear Rivers, and the necessity of military aid to break up this traffic. For the past eighteen months or more, frequent complaints have been made to the office, on account of the traffic carried on with the Indians by the traders in the locations indicated, at whose stores the renegade Utes of Northern Colorado, and hostile Bannocks in Southern Idaho and Wyoming Territories, with other lawless bands, have procured ample supplies of ammunition. Two years since, Capt. Charles Parker, U. S. A., stationed at Fort Steele, was directed, on the recommendation of this office, to make an investigation of affairs on the Bear River, with a view to the establishment of a military post there, to protect the settlers and break up the lawless traffic with the Indians, and keep them upon their reservations. After a thorough investigation of the matter, that officer, together with the agent of the White River Agency, reported strongly in favor of the measure, and on the 19th of September, 1877, copies of the papers were transmitted to the department, with a view to securing the necessary action on the part of the War Department. But the views of the General of the Army were then adverse to the recommendation of the officer, and the evils complained of have since become more wide-spread and serious in their character.

The agent urges the necessity of the employment of a military force to overawe and restrain the Indians, and to break up the traffic referred

to on Snake and Bear Rivers, and it is respectfully recommended that his communication be referred to the honorable the Secretary of War, with the request that he cause the necessary orders to issue to the commandant at Fort Steele, to detail the requisite number of troops for the purposes indicated.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLO.,

August 11, 1879.

SIR: In a letter of this date (A) are several things connected with the subject of this letter. I have a strong belief that a raid is to be made on our herd through the connivance of the Indians, and what I want is sufficient military force to be sent hither to awe these savages, so that they will stay at home. When this shall be done the Indians will be in a condition to improve, but now it is simply impossible; indeed, I fear they are already so demoralized that years upon years will be required to make anything out of them. A few, say twenty or thirty, I have under my control, and I have great hopes of them; but the rest, fully seven hundred, will not stay here. It is useless for anybody to tell me to keep them at home while there is no obstacle to their going away, and even while they are welcomed by white men who teach them all kinds of iniquities.

I had a conversation the other day on the cars with Major Thornburgh, commandant at Fort Steele. He said he had always sent my requests forward and that he had received no orders, and he added that if you should request the Secretary of War to command him to keep the tribes on their reservation he could start a company of fifty cavalry at a day's notice, but without orders he could not go ten miles from the fort.

Another trouble lies in the stores on Snake and Bear Rivers, or even nearer by, which sell ammunition for goods, playing-cards being in large supply. Let me ask you what is the use of my warning these traders when they know I have no power to back me? It is only a farce. I once wrote to the governor of this State about the violation of the law, and he told me if I could apply to the deputy United States marshal for the district he would move. I did not apply to him, because said deputy kept an Indian store himself.

The things to be done are three: Have the military break up the selling of ammunition (and liquor), and the buying of annuity goods at these stores. Then, as the Indians could not hunt they would work to get money, perhaps trap some, and a store would be established here. Of course the military must keep them on their reservation, and white men off. When these things shall be done the Indians will begin to consider the question of sending their children to school, and they will open farms. Now they will not. Already they are making their plans for going north, after they get their annuity goods, to hunt buffalo. If anything can be done I would like to have a hand in it.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 22, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for your information and consideration, a copy of telegram dated the 21st instant, from Special Agent Charles Adams, at Los Pinos, in relation to matters affecting the Ute Indians and the objects of his mission.

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., October 21, 1879.

CARL SCHURZ,

Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C.:

Arrived last night at Ouray's camp, and now make preparations to go to the camp of Douglass, between Grand and Gunnison Rivers, with escort of Indians, to secure the captive women and children, who, I have assurances, are safe and will be delivered. Troops should not proceed south from White River meanwhile, as I believe that your conditions to secure peace will be complied with. None of the Southern, and only a part of the White River Utes, have been engaged in the trouble; all rumors of depredations off the reservation are untrue, except the driving off of horses from Bear River, and this before Ouray's order to cease fighting was received. Ouray has perfect control of his own people, and the White River Utes are in constant communication with him. All desire peace. I expect to return in six days with the women and children.

CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 28, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith, for your information, copies of communications and telegrams recently received at the Indian Office from United States Agents Page and Stanley and Special Agent Adams concerning the difficulties with the Utes.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 27, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of communications and telegrams recently received from United States Agents Page and Stanley and Special Agent Adams in relation to the difficulties with the Utes, and respectfully recommend that they be transmitted to the War Department for its information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEWIS, COLO., October 18, 1879.

HAYT,

Indian Commissioner, Washington, D. C.:

Arrived at Fort Lewis yesterday with twenty Utes, chiefs and headmen; held council with General Hatch. They assured him they desired to remain at peace. I return to agency at once with them.

PAGE, *Agent.*

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
LOS PINOS INDIAN AGENCY, COLO.,

October 15, 1879.

SIR: There has been no fighting since Sunday, the 5th, when Ouray's order reached the Indians, through the hands of employé J. W. Brady and his escort of Indians. Neither has there been any depredations committed, that we can learn of by any Indian here or elsewhere.

None of the Southern Utes, none of the Uncampahgre, or my Utes, and only a part of the White River Utes, led by Captain Jack, took part in the fight at White River, as I learn it from the Utes here, and I believe what they say. If we should take the statements of what newspapers here say (find a few more samples inclosed), and especially the *Denver Tribune*, one would suppose that every Ute on the reservation was on the war-path and half of the people in Colorado murdered and their property destroyed by fire and stolen by the Utes. In justice to Sapavenaro, the third chief in command of all of the Utes, I wish to say that *he is a gentleman* compared to his traducers, and was not in the White River fight as published, but was here in this vicinity at the time of the fight, and headed the Brady escort to that place, in the interest of peace and humanity, and that all the Indians came away from the battle-field with him when he returned to this place, and is yet a gentleman and an advocate of peace and good feeling and friendship between the white man and the Utes. If the American people were all as honest and conscientious as Sapavenaro, there would be no trouble with the Indians anywhere, and we indeed could be truthfully called a Christian people.

Everything is quiet here; even the whites are getting ashamed of themselves and becoming rational, and, therefore, no danger threatens in the near future. If the soldiers are withdrawn, and a man placed in charge who has sufficient discrimination to know how to deal with the White River Utes as a band of children, which they are, there need be no trouble with them, at least no serious trouble.

I am not speaking in a reflective nor a suggestive sense, but simply aim to give the Indian character and disposition as I have learned them by studying my Utes since here.

I hope and trust the Indian Department at Washington will use every influence to see that the Utes have a fair hearing in this matter, that the world may know who is to blame, the Utes or the cormorants surrounding them. I am absolutely disgusted at the conduct of the white people, and am not at all surprised that the Indians do occasionally turn upon the traducers and robbers of their rights. The worm will squirm when tread upon and the noble horse defend himself when goaded to desperation, and why not an Indian, one of God's peo-

ple, who is covered by the same divine mantle of charity that enrobes the whites, and who are as devout worshipers, in their simple way, at the seat of justice and mercy as the white man, with none of the white man's hypocrisy and studied cant.

Respectfully,

W. M. STANLEY,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

LOS PINOS, COLO., *October 18.*
(Received in Washington 21st instant.)

Arrived last night at Ouray's camp, and now make preparations to go to the camp of Douglass, between Grand and Gunnison Rivers, with escort of Indians, to secure the captive women and children, who, I have assurances, are safe and will be delivered. Troops should not proceed south from White River. Meanwhile, as I believed that your conditions to secure peace will be complied with, none of the Southern and only a part of the White River Utes have been engaged in the trouble, and all rumors of the depredations off the reservation are untrue, except the driving off of horses from Bear River, and this before Ouray's order to cease fighting was received. Ouray has perfect control of his own people, and the White River Utes are in constant communication with him. All desire peace. I expect to return here in six days with the women and children.

CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent.

CARL SCHURZ,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 29, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to invite your attention to the inclosed copy of a telegram this day received from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, addressed to him under date of the 24th instant, from Los Pinos, Colo., by United States Indian Inspector Pollock, in relation to an interview had by him with the Ute chief Ouray, relative to the causes which led to hostilities on the part of the White River Utes, and the means to be adopted to prevent further difficulties, together with a copy of the letter of the commissioner transmitting said telegram.

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 28, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a telegram, dated 24th instant, from United States Indian Inspector W. J. Pollock, giving

S. Ex. 31—4

an account of an interview had, by him with the Ute chief Ouray relative to the cause of the hostilities on the part of the White River Utes, and the measures to be adopted to prevent further difficulties, and respectfully recommend that the same be transmitted to the War Department for its information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., *October 24, 1879.*

COMMISSIONER INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

Since telegram yesterday have had long confidential talk with Ouray. He says no white man had been killed, nor had Indians malicious intentions until after approach of military upon their country; that before Thornburgh engagement one of his nephews and another peaceable Indian were killed by soldiers; that if military are withdrawn there will be no more bloodshed; that White River Indians are in close communication with Utah Utes, Eastern Shoshones, Northern Arapahoes, and others, who have heretofore agreed to share their fate, and are now ready to aid in opposing advance of troops. He expresses fears of general Indian war unless military are withdrawn, and for his own safety should it become known he communicated plans of Indians.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 30, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to invite your attention to the inclosed copies of letter from Agent Page, of Southern Ute Agency, dated, respectively, the 15th and 19th instant, relative to the condition and attitude of the Utes of that agency, and copy of a telegram, dated the 23d instant, from Inspector Pollock, relative to difficulties with White River Utes, and the course pursued by Chief Ouray and himself, which papers have this day been received by this department from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Very respectfull,

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 29, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of two letters from United States Agent H. F. Page, of the Southern Ute Agency, dated 15th and 19th instant, respectively, relative to the condition and atti-

tude of the Utes of that agency, and copy of a telegram, dated 23d instant, from United State Inspector W. J. Pollock, relative to difficulties with White River Utes, and the course pursued by Chief Ouray and himself. I respectfully recommend a reference of these papers to the War Department for its information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY, COLO.,
October 15, 1879.

SIR: I start to-morrow morning, the 16th, for Fort Lewis, fifty miles east, on horseback, accompanied by Chief Ignacio, Jaqla, chief of Muaches, Narragimsup, chief of renegades, and ten other chiefs and headmen, to meet General Hatch, U. S. A., commanding district, for the purpose of allowing the Indians an opportunity to give him assurances of their good behavior.

I expect to be absent from the agency four days. All is quiet and orderly here. The Indians are under perfect control; the danger of an outbreak seems to have passed.

I have not called for military assistance for the agency.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY,
October 19, 1879.

SIR: I arrived at agency last night with Indians from council with General Hatch at Fort Lewis, of which I sent you telegram. To-morrow will commence the issue of annuity goods. Think some of the young bucks have stolen away and gone to join the White Rivers; will know positively to-morrow and next day.

My regular reports are unavoidably delayed, my whole time being spent in efforts to keep the Indians under control. I still expect to keep the Southern Utes on reserve and out of the fight.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Agency.

Hon. E. A. HOYT,
Indian Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., October 23, 1879.

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

Courier just arrived bearing messages from General Adams dated 21st. Says that just after leaving Adams he was overtaken by an Indian who

informed him the soldiers were cutting roads and advancing on the station of White River Indians camped on Grand River; that another had commenced; that Indians desire peace, but would contest the advance of soldiers. Ouray, who is advised of every movement, propositions have been made by the Uintah and Shoshones to a preventing advance of soldiers. Other advices will doubtless be received before morning, and if fighting continues, Ouray and myself will start to the front to-morrow and try to prevent further bloodshed.

POLLOCK, *Inspector*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

November 8, 1880

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for your information, telegrams communicated through the Indian Office by letter of 7th instant, this day received, from United States Indian Agent Stanley Pinos agency, and Inspector Pollock, dated, respectively, 24th and ultimo, in relation to Ute difficulties.

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ

Secretary

The Hon SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, November 7, 1880

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of telegrams from United States Agent Stanley and United States Inspector Pollock dated 24 and 25 ultimo, respectively, relative to Ute difficulties, and respectfully recommend their reference to the War Department for information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT

Commissioner

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., October 24, 1880

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, D. C.:

Women and children safe at Ouray's house, but somewhat despoiled of clothing; will be provided for here. Ladies returned in charge of George D. Sherman, clerk at this agency, and W. M. Cline, of Cimarron, with escort of my Utes. General Adams gone to meet Merritt's command who is said to be advancing. Douglass refused Secretary Schurz's invitation to come here.

STANLEY, Agent

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., *October 25, 1879.*MISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

the captives, Mrs. and Miss Meeker, Mrs. Price, and two children, arrived last night in charge of Major Sherman, agency clerk, and Mr. Cline; at Ouray's house, and go east to-day. They are in good health, considering the hardships endured. Have taken their statements in full. No books or papers were saved. They brought away only the dresses they wore; their private funds, amounting to \$30, were taken. News expected here to-morrow. Nervousness apparent here yet. Peace prevails. Saltpeter could not save this country but for the counsel of Ouray.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
December 10, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of two dispatches submitted to General Hatch, Ute commissioner, under date of 9th inst., in relation to surrender of White River Utes and their conveyance under military guard to Fort Leavenworth, or, if essential, to Fortress Monroe, and have respectfully to request that corresponding instructions may be given the proper military authorities.

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

To the Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 9, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

Receive the surrender of the Indians designated by your commission, on the understanding that they will be guaranteed a fair trial by a military commission outside of Colorado and New Mexico. Inform him that he will be received here with four or five Uncompahgres, some Southern Utes, and three White River Utes. Take care that good influential men be selected, especially from the White River Utes. It will probably be desirable to have Jack here. Take possession of the prisoners, with a military guard to convey them in the first place to Fort Leavenworth.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

[Telegram.]

[Confidential.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 9, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

It is preferred not to bring the prisoners to Washington for trial. For t

an account of an interview had, by him with the Ute chief Ouray relative to the cause of the hostilities on the part of the White River Utes, and the measures to be adopted to prevent further difficulties, and respectfully recommend that the same be transmitted to the War Department for its information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., *October 24, 1879.*

COMMISSIONER INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

Since telegram yesterday have had long confidential talk with Ouray. He says no white man had been killed, nor had Indians malicious intentions until after approach of military upon their country; that before Thornburgh engagement one of his nephews and another peaceable Indian were killed by soldiers; that if military are withdrawn there will be no more bloodshed; that White River Indians are in close communication with Utah Utes, Eastern Shoshones, Northern Arapahoes, and others, who have heretofore agreed to share their fate, and are now ready to aid in opposing advance of troops. He expresses fears of general Indian war unless military are withdrawn, and for his own safety should it become known he communicated plans of Indians.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 30, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to invite your attention to the inclosed copies of letter from Agent Page, of Southern Ute Agency, dated, respectively, the 15th and 19th instant, relative to the condition and attitude of the Utes of that agency, and copy of a telegram, dated the 23d instant, from Inspector Pollock, relative to difficulties with White River Utes, and the course pursued by Chief Ouray and himself, which papers have this day been received by this department from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Very respectfull,

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 29, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of two letters from United States Agent H. F. Page, of the Southern Ute Agency, dated 15th and 19th instant, respectively, relative to the condition and atti

tude of the Utes of that agency, and copy of a telegram, dated 23d instant, from United State Inspector W. J. Pollock, relative to difficulties with White River Utes, and the course pursued by Chief Ouray and himself. I respectfully recommend a reference of these papers to the War Department for its information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY, COLO.,
October 15, 1879.

SIR: I start to-morrow morning, the 16th, for Fort Lewis, fifty miles east, on horseback, accompanied by Chief Ignacio, Jaqla, chief of Muaches, Narragimsup, chief of renegades, and ten other chiefs and headmen, to meet General Hatch, U. S. A., commanding district, for the purpose of allowing the Indians an opportunity to give him assurances of their good behavior.

I expect to be absent from the agency four days. All is quiet and orderly here. The Indians are under perfect control; the danger of an outbreak seems to have passed.

I have not called for military assistance for the agency.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY,
October 19, 1879.

SIR: I arrived at agency last night with Indians from council with General Hatch at Fort Lewis, of which I sent you telegram. To-morrow will commence the issue of annuity goods. Think some of the young bucks have stolen away and gone to join the White Rivers; will know positively to-morrow and next day.

My regular reports are unavoidably delayed, my whole time being spent in efforts to keep the Indians under control. I still expect to keep the Southern Utes on reserve and out of the fight.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Agency.

Hon. E. A. HOYT,
Indian Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., October 23, 1879.

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

Courier just arrived bearing messages from General Adams dated 21st. Says that just after leaving Adams he was overtaken by an Indian who

informed him the soldiers were cutting roads and advancing on that portion of White River Indians camped on Grand River; that another fight had commenced; that Indians desire peace, but would contest the advance of soldiers. Ouray, who is advised of every movement, says propositions have been made by the Uintah and Shoshones to aid in preventing advance of soldiers. Other advices will doubtless be received before morning, and if fighting continues, Ouray and myself will start to the front to-morrow and try to prevent further bloodshed.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

November 8, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for your information, telegrams communicated through the Indian Office by letter of 7th instant, this day received, from United States Indian Agent Stanley, Los Pinos agency, and Inspector Pollock, dated, respectively, 24th and 25th ultimo, in relation to Ute difficulties.

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

The Hon SECRETARY OF WAR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, November 7, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of telegrams from United States Agent Stanley and United States Inspector Pollock, dated 24 and 25 ultimo, respectively, relative to Ute difficulties, and respectfully recommend their reference to the War Department for its information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., *October 24, 1879.*

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

Women and children safe at Ouray's house, but somewhat destitute of clothing; will be provided for here. Ladies returned in charge of George D. Sherman, clerk at this agency, and W. M. Cline, of Cimarron, with escort of my Utes. General Adams gone to meet Merritt's command, who is said to be advancing. Douglass refused Secretary Schurz's invitation to come here.

STANLEY, *Agent.*

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., *October 25, 1879.*

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Washington, D. C.:

The captives, Mrs. and Miss Meeker, Mrs. Price, and two children, arrived last night in charge of Major Sherman, agency clerk, and Mr. Cline; sleep at Ouray's house, and go east to-day. They are in good health, considering the hardships endured. Have taken their statements in detail. No books or papers were saved. They brought away only the clothes they wore; their private funds, amounting to \$30, were taken. Adams expected here to-morrow. Nervousness apparent here yet. Peace prevails. Saltpeter could not save this country but for the counsel of Ouray.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

December 10, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of two dispatches transmitted to General Hatch, Ute commissioner, under date of 9th instant, in relation to surrender of White River Utes and their conveyance under military guard to Fort Leavenworth, or, if essential, to Fortress Monroe, and have respectfully to request that corresponding instructions may be given the proper military authorities.

Very respectfully,

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, December 9, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

Receive the surrender of the Indians designated by your commission, with the understanding that they will be guaranteed a fair trial by a military commission outside of Colorado and New Mexico. Inform Ouray that he will be received here with four or five Uncompahgres, three Southern Utes, and three White River Utes. Take care that good and influential men be selected, especially from the White River Utes. It will probably be desirable to have Jack here. Take possession of the prisoners, with a military guard to convey them in the first place to Fort Leavenworth.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

[Telegram.]

Confidential.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, December 9, 1879.

General HATCH,

Ute Commission, Los Pinos Agency, via Lake City, Colo.:

It is preferred not to bring the prisoners to Washington for trial. For t

Leavenworth would in many respects be more convenient. Try to arrange it so. But if it is essential to procure the surrender, you may consent to have them brought for trial to the Department of the East, in which Washington is situated, in which case the trial might be had at Fortress Monroe.

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

[Telegram.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, July 8, 1879.

General P. H. SHERIDAN, U. S. A.,
Chicago, Ill. :

Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, Colorado, reports that commander at Fort Steele pays no attention to his repeated requests to keep the Indians where they belong.

As the Secretary of the Interior represents that a military force is needed immediately to bring wandering Indians back to the agency and to stop their destruction of timber, the Secretary of War desires you to take such action as may be necessary to accomplish the wishes of the Interior Department.

R. C. DRUM,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *July 9, 1879.*

Copy of telegram to accompany second indorsement on 4278, A. G. O., 1879. Official copy.

R. C. DRUM,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., July 9, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior for his information.

JOHN TWEEDALE,
Acting Chief Clerk, for the Secretary of War in his absence.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
July 11, 1879.

Respectfully referred to Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

W. J. VANCE,
Acting Chief Clerk.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 17, 1879.

SIR: It is my duty to inform you that quite a large party of White River Utes are about to start for the north, perhaps for the scene of In-

dian troubles. Whether they intend to mix in is doubtful, but I think it entirely certain they will carry considerable supplies of ammunition for sale to their allies.

I have before reported to you that there are several stores on Snake and Bear Rivers which keep full supplies of ammunition. I would hereby request you to arrest all White River Utes bound north, and either hold them or send them back to the reservation. They deserve a lesson. I wish also the sale of ammunition as above kept be put an end to, agreeably to orders in such cases.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

To the COMMANDANT AT FORT STEELE,
Wyoming.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FORT FRED. STEELE, WYO.,
March 22, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to headquarters Department of the Platte. Attention invited to the inclosed letter of Indian Agent Meeker, and instructions requested if the department commander desires any action taken in the premises.

T. T. THORNBURGH,
Major Fourth Infantry, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., March 26, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, U. S. A., headquarters, Military Division of the Missouri.

GEORGE CROOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,
Chicago, April 2, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, *April 7, 1879.*

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, April 9, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit for your information copy of a communication from Mr. N. C. Meeker, Indian agent at White River

Agency, stating that a large part of White River Utes are about to start north, probably for the scene of Indian troubles, and requesting that all White River Utes be held or sent back to the reserve if found going north.

General Sherman, in submitting the above letter, remarks that he understands that the White River Utes have agreed to go south to the reservation, and that if they go north they simply complicate matters, and force on the military the most unpleasant duty of capturing them and compelling them to go to their new reservation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. McCRARY,
Secretary of War.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[First indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
April 11, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

G. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

Copy of indorsements on communication (4730, A. G. O., 1879), dated July 18, 1879, from Interior Department, transmitting copy of letter of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated 17th instant, with inclosures relating to affairs at the White River Agency, Colorado, and action of the Indians at said agency.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, July 28, 1879.

Respectfully referred to General P. H. Sheridan for investigation and report, returning these papers.

W. T. SHERMAN, *General.*

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, July 31, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the commanding-general Department of the Platte for investigation, action, and report.

By command of Lieutenant-General Sheridan.

M. V. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Military Secretary.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., August 4, 1879.

Respectfully returned to the assistant adjutant-general, U. S. A., headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, inviting attention to the report of Maj. T. T. Thornburgh, Fourth Infantry, commanding Fort Fred Steele, Wyo., and the accompanying statement of parties who were in the vicinity and who were cognizant of all the facts.

Major Thoruburgh's report, with these statements, are forwarded herewith.

From these statements it will be seen : First, that besides killing the game the Indians committed no depredations ; Second, that the post-commandant of Fort Steele, Wyo., did not receive timely information of the presence of the Indians referred to.

I ask attention to the fact that it is impossible for the military, placed as they are at such great distance from the agencies, to prevent Indians from leaving without authority, unless warning in due time by the Indian authorities is given, nor can a post-commander force them to return without running the risk of bringing on a war for which he would be held accountable. For this reason the post-commander is required to refer the matter to higher military authority, which also involves delay. Unless troops are stationed at the agencies, they cannot know in time when Indians are absent by authority, nor can they prevent the occurrence of troubles, for which they are frequently and most unjustly held responsible.

GEORGE CROOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FORT FRED STEELE, WYO.,
July 27, 1879.

SIR : I have the honor to submit the following report of the recent visit of the Ute Indians from the White River Agency to this vicinity.

About the 25th of June a band of some 100 Indians from the White River Agency made their appearance at a mining camp on the divide near the head of Jack and Savoy Creeks, some sixty miles south of this post, and engaged in hunting and trading in this vicinity for about one week when they departed, as they said, for their agency.

I did not learn of the presence of these Indians until after their departure, nor was I notified by the agent at White River that they had left their agency until June 11, when I received a communication from him, dated June 7, stating that a considerable number of the Indians had left their reservation, and were burning timber and wantonly destroying game along Bear and Snake Rivers ; also warning off miners and ranchmen ; and requesting me to cause them to return to their reservation.

Upon receiving this letter, I made inquiries and could not find such a state of affairs to exist, but did find that the Indians had killed a great deal of game and used the skins for trade. The miners they visited in this section were not molested, but on the contrary were presented with an abundance of game.

No stock was molested, and, so far as I can learn, no one attributes the burning of timber to these Indians. Since I have been in command of this post (one year) Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, has written me two letters, dated November 11, 1878, and June 7, 1879. These letters have usually come to me after the Indians had paid a flying but peaceable visit to this country and departed (as they always say) to their agency.

The White River Agency is situated some 200 miles from this post, and there are very few settlers in the country between Fort Fred Steele and the agency ; consequently, I am not informed as soon as I should be of the movements of these Indians. Bear and Snake Rivers are

about 100 miles from this post, and to reach them by traveling this distance would require the trip to be made through a very rough country, impracticable for wagons, the only transportation available.

I have never received any orders from my superiors to cause these Indians to remain on their reservation at the request of the agent, but am ready to attempt anything required of me. I have been able to communicate with nearly every ranchman residing within one hundred miles of this post, in reference to the late visit of these Indians, and forward herewith letters received from them. Both the letters mentioned above as having been received from Agent Meeker were forwarded to higher authority, and instructions have been asked to guide me in this matter.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. T. THORNBURGH,

Major Fourth Infantry, Commanding Post.

The ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL,

Headquarters Department of the Platte, Fort Omaha, Nebr.

[Indorsement on above report.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,

Fort Omaha, Nebr., August 4, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Assistant Adjutant-General United States Army, headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, for the information of the Lieutenant-General, in connection with telegram of 8th ultimo, from the Adjutant-General's office, transmitted for my information and guidance and action, from your office, July 9, 1879. Attention is invited to the report of the commanding officer Fort Fred Steele, Wyo., on the subject, and to the accompanying statements.

GEORGE CROOK,

Brigadier General Commanding.

[Inclosures to above report.]

UPPER NORTH PLATTE,

Brush Creek, July 6, 1879.

DEAR SIR: In regard to your inquiries of the Ute Indians on the Upper North Platte, would say that there were about 65 or 70 lodges as near as I can ascertain; they camped on Jack Creek, about the middle of June; they were evidently a hunting party, doing no damage, and seeming perfectly friendly. They had caught some elk calves which they wanted to trade for cartridges, but the ranchmen would not trade.

They traded them some butter for furs and skins, and killed enough game for their own immediate use.

Yours, respectfully,

TAYLOR PENNOCK.

Major THORNBURGH,

Commanding Officer Fort Fred Steele.

P. S. They went south towards North Park, between the 3d and 5th of July, but did no damage nor made no threats.

T. P.

WARM SPRINGS, WYO.,

July 23, 1879.

DEAR SIR: In response to your inquiries regarding the Ute Indians who were recently in this part of the country, I submit the following: The Indians committed no depredations in this settlement beyond slaughtering game by the wholesale. No hostility was manifested towards any of the settlers, the Indians conducting themselves peaceably and quietly. No cattle was killed, and no fires set.

Rumors of trouble in the North Park have reached here from time to time, but I cannot vouch for their truthfulness. The Indians left this country for the North Park about the 3d of this month, at least not later than that time.

We have no one to blame for the Indians being in this country but ourselves, for we were aware of the fact that, if you had been notified of their presence, you would have at once taken steps to remove them.

Yours, &c.,

J. F. CRAWFORD.

Major THORNBURGH,

Post Commander, Fort Steele, Wyoming.

LAKE CREEK, CARBON COUNTY, WYO.,

July 24, 1879.

SIR: In compliance with your request, I take pleasure in giving you all the information in my possession in reference to the late visit of the Ute Indians from the White River Agency to this part of the country. I reside, as you know, about 25 miles south of Fort Steele, on the Platte River, and about the last of June I had occasion to go to Spring Creek, some 12 miles farther south, and I found that a band of some one hundred Indians had just left Wagner's ranch, having remained there only two days, which time they used for trading horses, skins, &c. These Indians are very friendly, and tried in every way not to get into trouble with any one. They killed considerable game, more than they could use, but that is not an uncommon thing in this country. I heard of no acts of hostility, and, in fact, I know that none was committed, as I have seen nearly all the ranchmen in 100 miles of us since their departure. I have seen Mr. Jones, a miner from North Park, who told me that a good many miners, when they learned of the approach of the Indians, left and returned home. No depredations were committed at the Park that I have ever heard of.

WM. BRANER.

Major THORNBURGH,

Commanding Fort Fred Steele.

NORTH PLATTE RIVER, WYO.,

July 25, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your inquiries, I would respectfully state that the band of Indians who were lately here left this country on the 1st inst., going south into Colorado. I don't think they set out any fires, or interfered with the settlers in any way whilst here, and I have had a good chance to know. They killed considerable game while here.

Yours, very respectfully,

B. T. RYAN.

Major T. T. THORNBURGH,

Fort Steele, Wyo.

FORT STEELE, WYO.,
July 26, 1879.

DEAR SIR: In answer to your inquiry, I have just returned from a seven days' journey through the country which the Ute Indians have been traveling and hunting. Being well acquainted with settlers of the country, have met and conversed with most of them, and have heard no complaint except the great slaughter of game.

I traveled 30 or 40 miles along the base of the mountains on their trail, and did not see where any prairie or timber fire had originated from their camps or where there had been any recent fire. I learn from the ranchmen that the Indians left for the North Park about July the first, and have heard nothing further of their movements.

Very respectfully, yours,

NEWTON MAJOR.

Major THORNBURGH.

WARM SPRINGS, WYO.,
July 25, 1879.

SIR: In answer to your inquiry regarding the Ute Indians, I do not think they set any of the fires in this part of the country, as the tie-men admitted to me that the fires on Brush and French Creeks caught from their camp-fires. They crossed on Beaver Creek, fifty miles south of Steele, on June last or July 1, going north.

Very respectfully,

W. B. HUGUS.

Major T. T. THORNBURGH,
Commanding, Fort Steele.

GRAND ENCAMPMENT CREEK,
July 26, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your inquiries concerning the Ute Indians who lately visited this region, I can inform you that I saw and traded with these Indians on or about the 8th of July, when they were on their way south toward their agency by way of North Park. These Indians, about fifty in number, were very peaceable and polite, and did not commit any depredations or show any hostility toward any of the settlers in this country. There were fires set about this time in the timber, but it is not known how they originated. I have since their departure learned from Mr. John LeForce, of North Park, that another band of these Indians were in North Park in June, and that some of the miners talked of driving them off, but on conversing with White Antelope, their chief, they learned that the Indians did not wish trouble, and they immediately left. This is all I know or have heard of this subject.

GREY NICHOLS

Maj. T. T. THORNBURGH,
Fourth Infantry, Fort Fred Steele, Wyo.

FORT STEELE, WYO.,
July 26, 1879.

SIR: Referring to your inquiries as to the doings of the Utes who were lately in the Platte Valley south of this post, I would respectfully

state that a party of White-River Ute Indians camped on Beaver Creek June 30, they being then on their way south, and that they crossed the Colorado line July 1. During their stay on the Platte they killed considerable game, but offered no violence to settlers, nor did they, so far as I have been able to learn by diligent inquiry, set fire to any grass or timber in this country. I have traveled all through the country referred to since the 1st of July, and am satisfied that had any violence been committed by the Indians I should have heard of it.

Very respectfully,

J. M. HUGUS.

Maj. T. T. THORNBURGH,
Commanding Officer, Fort Fred Steele, Wyo.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, August 6, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant of the Army, inviting attention to the indorsement of General Crook and report of Major Thornburgh.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General. Commanding.

[Fifth indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *August 11, 1879.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., September 13, 1879.

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of a copy of letter from the Acting Secretary of the Interior, in relation to the depredations and other bad conduct of the Ute Indians belonging to the White River Agency in Colorado, with the indorsements thereon, and I respectfully submit the following report of the facts concerning that agency.

The letter of Indian Agent Meeker has been copied and retained, and will be acted on as far as it requires action and the means at my command admit.

I had a conversation with Mr. Meeker in Colorado last month, on the subject of these Indians, and I only regret that he did not in the present communication relate all the facts concerning that band of Utes and their agency and conduct which he told me.

Such a relation as he made to me would of necessity have an important bearing in determining the measure which ought to be promptly adopted in their case.

The White River band of Utes is in no sense different from the other bands of that nation. They are worthless, idle vagabonds, who are no more likely to earn a living where they are by manual labor than by teaching metaphysics. They declined to join the southern bands last

year in their treaty with the commission for a removal to a new and consolidated agency on the waters of the Chama and Navajo Rivers. Their agency is very remote from any railroad or any military post in either the Department of the Platte or the Missouri. They do no good for themselves or any one else at their present agency, and should be required to go to the new agency with the other bands of Utes.

The government herd of cattle which is referred to is simply the herds of cattle for the supply of the Indians themselves. If they depredate only on their own cattle, I do not know that there is much to complain of. To establish a military post at that remote place, for the mere purpose of preventing this band of Indians from consuming their beef in less time than they ought to do it according to the table of issues determined by the Indian department, would be an exceedingly costly way of saving money or property, and probably would accomplish nothing, unless the troops were required to furnish sentries and herders for the cattle in question. A removal of the herd every ten days would hardly be more expensive.

As to the depredations of these Indians away from their reservations, I have only to say that no Utes in Colorado that I know of are kept on their reservations, except when they choose to stay there. Indians in number from every band in the State are perpetually roaming about, annoying lawful settlers and burning forests, besides killing cattle at times and turning their horses into the pastures of the settlers in Middle Park and elsewhere.

I have been compelled to keep a cavalry company every summer scouting in such well known places of public resort as the South and Middle Parks, as a sort of police against these wandering Indians.

For these and kindred reasons, I have for several years urged the consolidation of all these bands of Utes into one reservation and agency to be located on the Chama and Navajo Rivers, and the establishment of a strong military post north of and in their immediate vicinity. We have the appropriation and are ready to build the post as soon as the Indians are moved or ready to move.

The agreement with the Indians which was made last year (but which the White River band did not then accede to) was made in this view. It has not yet been ratified by the Senate, as I understand, but there is no doubt the arrangement referred to should be carried out at the earliest practicable moment.

It is a great injury to the Indians, to the people of Colorado, and to the government, every day, that things are permitted to run on as they have been and are now.

I have treated quite fully of this matter in my annual report, which will be forwarded in a few days, and need not enlarge upon it here.

The nearest post, by far, to this White River Agency is Fort Fred Steele, on the Union Pacific Railroad.

I have received letters from several of the settlers in that region who have been molested by individuals of the White River band, and who have taken out warrants against the individual Indians and placed them in the hands of the sheriff for that county to issue. They ask me for troops to serve as a posse for the sheriff, which, under the law, I am unable to furnish.

I will direct Captain Dodge's company, Ninth Cavalry, now scouting in the Middle Park, to proceed to the agency at White River to see if he can settle matters there for the present, and to carry out the requests of the Indian agent.

It is not practicable to keep either men or horses there this winter,

even were it wise to do so, and these Indians should be required, early in the spring, to remove to the new reservation.

The outlaws and renegades to whom the Indian agent refers are, I presume, Utes, largely if not wholly, and they are no more "renegades" than any other Indians of the tribe.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. POPE,

Brevet Major-General, U. S. A., Commanding.

Col. W. D. WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Chicago, Ill.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,

Chicago, September 26, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

The directions referred to in this communication by General Pope were sent to him inadvertently.

Heretofore the disturbances at the White River Agency have always been controlled by the commanding general Department of the Platte, via Fort Steele, because it is the nearest military station to the agency and the direct line of travel to it.

Three or four companies are now *en route* to said agency to settle the troubles there, and General Pope has been notified that it will not be necessary for him to take action in reference thereto.

I agree with General Pope that it would be best if this band of Utes were on the new reservation in Northern New Mexico, at the headwaters of the Chama River, and united with the Utes to go there; but such a removal will not be an easy thing to accomplish, and there is no one who should be better able to comprehend the difficulties to be encountered in removing Indians from the place of their nativity than General Pope.

The Navajoes in his department were once removed to the Fort Stanton Reservation, and we were obliged to bring them back to their old homes.

Victoria's band, now hostile, has been moved two or three times, and now trying to get back to their own country, and each time their removal has been attended with loss of property and bloodshed.

It is not long ago since General Pope had an example of this kind in the struggle of the Northern Cheyennes to get back to their birth-place, with all the sad consequences that attended the effort on their part.

The Indians are a primitive people, and so much are they attached to their homes, that they can rarely be removed without serious trouble. I recommend, therefore, no action, in so far as the military are concerned, except simply to quell the existing disturbance, and then to await such final decision as may seem best by the Indian Bureau.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., October 7, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

H. T. CROSBY,

Chief Clerk, for the Secretary of War in his absence.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 11, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO,
ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Santa Fé, New Mexico, September 13, 1879.

SIR: Referring to telegram of the commanding general of this date, relative to Captain Dodge proceeding to White River Agency, I have the honor to inform you that on August 28, 1879, Captain Dodge informed these headquarters, from Hot Sulphur Springs, Colorado, as follows:

A large fire is reported to the west on Gore Range, and the Indians are reported to be the authors of it. What their object can be in burning the grass and timber unless it be done in a spirit of pure deviltry is not understood. Perhaps, however, they think that by burning the country outside, it will confine the game to their own reserve. I have seen and talked with two of the chiefs from the White River Agency, giving them to understand that their performances would not be tolerated, and received their assurances that there should be no cause for complaint on that score in the future.

In the absence of Colonel Hatch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN S. LOUD;
*First Lieutenant and Adjutant Ninth Cavalry,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

TO ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., September 18, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general headquarters military division of the Missouri for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JNO. POPE,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, September 22, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.
In absence of the Lieutenant-General commanding.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, *September 29, 1879.*
The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Third indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., September 30, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Fourth indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, *October 2, 1879.*

Respectfully eferred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, September 15, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, covering one from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in relation to insubordination of the Indians at the White River Agency, Colorado, and requesting that the commandant of the nearest military post may be instructed by telegraph to detail a sufficient guard for the arrest of such of the Indians as may be found implicated in the disturbance, &c., I have the honor to inform you that instructions have been given in accordance with your wishes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. MCCRARY,
Secretary of War.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, *September 17, 1879.*

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

STATE OF COLORADO, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Denver, September 16, 1879.

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a communication from N. C. Meeker, esq., Indian agent at the White River Agency, in which he details the feelings of the Utes at that point, and desires me to confer with you for the purpose of securing at least one hundred troops for the protection of the agency.

I also inclose herewith a copy of a letter just received by Maj. James B. Thompson, special agent of the General Land Office, in charge of the government timber of the State, from J. B. Donaldson, superintendent of the International Mining Company at Hahn's Peak, in Routt County, detailing what he knows in relation to the forest fires now burning in that locality.

I received, yesterday, your dispatch advising me that a company of cavalry had been ordered to proceed at once to the White River Agency.

S. Ex. 31——5

Your letter concerning the disposition of the Utes, I presume, will reach me to-day.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FREDERICK W. PITKIN,
Governor.

Maj. Gen. JOHN POPE,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
September 10, 1879.

SIR: We have plowed eighty acres, and the Indians object to any more being done, and to any more fencing. We shall stop plowing. One of the plowmen was shot at last week. On Monday I was assaulted in my own house, while my wife was present, by a leading chief named Johnson, and forced out-doors and considerably injured, as I was in a crippled condition, having previously met with an accident, a wagon falling over on me. The employés came to my rescue. I had built this Johnson a house, given him a wagon and harness, and fed him at my table many, many times. The trouble is, he has 150 horses, and wants the land for pasturage, although the agency was moved that this same land might be used, and the agency buildings are on it. I have had two days' council with the chiefs and headmen of the tribe, who concluded, after a sort of a way, that I might plow, but they will do nothing to permit me to, and they laugh at my being forced out of my house.

I have no confidence in any of them, and I feel that none of the white people are safe. I know they are not if we go on to perform work directed by Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Here are my wife and daughter in this condition.

Confer with General Pope, Commissioner, and Senator Teller. At least 100 soldiers ought to come hither to protect us, and to keep the Utes on their reservation—should be more.

Don't let this application get in the papers, for I know the Indians will hear of it in a few days. Of course, what the Indians have done is a matter of news.

Truly,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Governor PITKIN,
Denver, Colo.

INTERNATIONAL CAMP, HAHN'S PEAK,
Route County, Colorado, September 10, 1879.

DEAR SIR: Your favor of September 6 is received. The forest fire that began near Sand Mountain early in May last, has been burning ever since, and has finally culminated, after sweeping all over that section of country, in a grand attack on our mining property on String Ridge, sweeping all before it, and causing us very serious expense to keep it out of this camp. Besides, it is now sweeping everything before it along the line of our 17-mile ditch, on which we have several miles of fluming. The fire is so hot and the smoke is so dense that we

cannot reach many of our flames to know at present how many of them are destroyed. If *any* are left it will be nothing short of a miracle.

Thousands of acres have been burned over, and who can say where it will stop? Our saw-mill, and timber, I think may go, unless we get rain or snow within the next three days. We keep men night and day battling it where we can, but man is almost powerless against such a destructive element when once set in motion.

Frank Hinman asked the Utes, when he was on Snake River, why they set the timber on fire in our section, and they replied, "In order that their ponies could travel. Now too much timber." Jim Baker, the scout, who lives on Snake River, was out with a surveying party, and says the Utes started a fire in the timber in two different places, not far from their camp. I am not acquainted with any of the Utes; and of course they will not converse with a stranger; but I do know they were in our vicinity when these fires were started in the spring, and there had been no hunters around or we should have known it, because the mining camps are their market for meat.

About the quantity of timber and grazing land burned over, I cannot give it in acres, but it is immense. It can only be measured by miles, and at this date it is growing more fierce every day. Nothing can now stop it but a storm of rain or snow.

Very respectfully, yours,

JAMES B. THOMPSON,

Special Agent, General Land-Office.

J. B. DONALDSON,

Superintendent.

[Indorsements.]

- 1.] HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., September 20, 1879.

Official copy respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general Military Division of the Missouri, for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JNO. POPE,

Breret Major-General, U. S. A., Commanding.

- 2.] HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, September 25, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

- 3.] ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Spetember 30, 1879.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Adjutant-General.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

- 4.] WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., September 30, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,

Chief Clerk.

5.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 2, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, September 18, 1879.

SIR: Your letter of the 15th instant inclosing copy of correspondence relating to an assault by Indians at the White River Agency upon their agent, N. C. Meeker, and requesting that a military guard be detailed sufficient for the arrest of the Indians implicated, and that they be held as prisoners until the matter is investigated, has been received.

In reply thereto I have the honor to transmit copy of dispatch of the 15th instant from headquarters Division of the Missouri on the subject, and of telegraphic instructions from this department for a compliance with your wishes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. MCCRARY,
Secretary of War.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[First indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
September 23, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

(One inclosure.)

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., September 15, 1879.

Received Washington, D. C., September 15—4.55 p. m.

To ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Washington, D. C.:

Reports from James France and J. W. Steele, both of Rawlins, are to the effect that agent Meeker, White River Agency, expected trouble from the Utes, sends a dispatch to department of the Interior that implies have been shot, and that agent's life would not have been safe but for assistance of employés. As no request for assistance came from agent, no action has been taken here.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, September 16, 1879.

Lieut-Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN,
Commanding Division Missouri, Chicago, Ill. :

In reply to your dispatch of yesterday, relative to White River Utes, under agent Meeker, the Secretary of War approves request of Interior Department just received, and General of the Army directs that neces-

sary orders be given the nearest military commander to the Agency to detail a sufficient number of troops to arrest such Indian chiefs as are insubordinate, and enforce obedience to the requirements of the agent, and afford him such protection as the exigency of the case requires; also that the ringleaders be held as prisoners until an investigation can be had.

Please acknowledge receipt.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

CHICAGO, ILL., *September 16, 1879.*
(Received War Department.)

To General E. D. TOWNSEND:

Your dispatch relative to White River Utes received, and necessary orders given.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *September 16, 1879.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., *September 30, 1879.*

To ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Washington, D. C.:

Major Thornburg telegraphs, on 26th, from Bear River, Colorado: "Have met some Ute chiefs here; they seem friendly and promise to go with me to Agency; say Utes don't understand why we have come. Have tried to explain satisfactorily. Do not anticipate trouble."

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *October 1, 1879.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 1, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

October 3, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,

Chief Clerk.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,

Chicago, October 1, 1879.

SIR: In addition to the troops which you have ordered from your department to be concentrated at Rawlin's Station to go to the relief of Captain Payne's command, there have been ordered six companies of the Seventh Infantry from Fort Snelling, Department of Dakota, to proceed without delay to same station, the commanding officer to report to you on arrival at Omaha.

The Lieutenant-General commanding says: The events which have recently transpired in connection with Major Thornburgh's command will make it necessary to occupy a point at Ute Agency on White River this fall and winter, and with a sufficient force to control the hostile Indians there and protect the agency and settlements. It will therefore be necessary on your part to take steps without delay to accomplish this purpose. Should you find that more infantry force will be required for the purpose indicated, it will be sent to you from other departments.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. D. WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE CROOK,

Commanding Department of the Platte, Chicago, Ill.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,

Chicago, October 1, 1879.

General A. H. TERRY,

Saint Paul, Minn.:

Major Thornburgh's command, three companies of cavalry and one of infantry, were attacked near the White River Ute Agency, Colorado. Thornburgh and ten men were killed, and about twenty soldiers and teamsters were wounded. The balance of the command is in a condition to hold out until the re-enforcements ordered reach it. As the country is very mountainous, Crook will want more infantry than he has, and I wish you to send without delay the six companies of the Seventh Infantry now at Fort Snelling to Rawlins Station, on Union Pacific Railroad. The men should take with them forty rounds of ammunition per man. An additional supply will be placed at Rawlins. The commanding officer will report to General Crook as he passes through Omaha. General Crook will have camp and garrison equipage provided at Rawlins Station.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 2, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 7, 1879.

The Hon. Secretary of the Interior.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 8, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior
for his information.

For the Secretary of War in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR,
October 10, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., *October 1, 1879.*

TO ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY:

Telegram from Captain Payne to General Crook announces that Major Thornburgh's column of three companies of cavalry and one of infantry were attacked at Mill Creek, Colorado, on September 29, and driven back to where the wagon was parked, with the loss of Major Thornburgh and ten men killed, with Lieutenant Paddock and Dr. Grimes slightly wounded, and twenty soldiers and teamsters wounded. About three-fourths of the animals have been killed. The command is now in good condition to hold out until re-enforcements reach it. Major Thornburgh was met by apparently friendly Indians, as will appear from the following telegram of yesterday:

FORT OMAHA, *September 30.*

General GEORGE CROOK, *Chicago:*

Thornburgh telegraphs on 26th from Bear River, Colorado: "Have met some Ute chiefs here. They seem friendly, and promise to go with me to the agency. Say Utes don't understand why we have come. Have tried to explain satisfactorily. Do not now anticipate any trouble."

R. W. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Re-enforcements to the number of 530, cavalry and infantry, have been dispatched, under Colonel Merritt, to the relief of Captain Payne.

Very cordially to Secretary of War.
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., *October 1, 1879.*

To General E. D. TOWNSEND:

General Crook has ordered General Merritt, with 530 men, cavalry and infantry, to the relief of the command of Major Thornburgh. In addition, four companies of cavalry have been ordered from Fetterman, Laramie, and Robinson, and I have ordered six companies of Seventh Infantry from Fort Snelling to report to General Crook, at Rawlins Station, Union Pacific Railroad. Major Thornburgh was attacked in a cañon.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

Copy 6383, 6384, A. G. O., 1879, to accompany first indorsement on former telegrams October 1, 1879, from Lieutenant-General Sheridan, covering report of Captain Payne of fight with Utes and the killing of Major Thornburgh; also as to troops for relief of Captain Payne, &c.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 2, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., *October 2, 1879.*

General E. D. TOWNSEND,
Washington, D. C.:

We have nothing new this morning from Department of Platte.

General Merritt was to have started this morning from Rawlins with over 500 men. The six companies of Seventh Infantry from Fort Snelling and other companies from different posts will reach Rawlins to-morrow, and will follow up General Merritt.

These additional troops will make his strength, exclusive of Major Thornburgh's command, over 900 men, and with it about 1,100. General Crook, who left here this morning for the West, thinks this will be sufficient. I have notified him that I can give him another regiment.

Duplicate sent to Secretary of War at Keokuk, Iowa.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

OCTOBER 2.

Lieutenant General Sheridan telegraphs nothing new from Department of the Platte this a. m., and reports assignment of troops under General Merritt, which, with Thornburgh's command, will be about 1,100.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 3, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., October 3, 1879.

Lieut. Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN,
Chicago, Ill.:

The following dispatch has been sent to Colonel Hatch.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

Four companies Twenty-Second Infantry from Fort Gibson have been ordered to leave immediately for Fort Garland, where they will be at your orders; please see to it at once. I think the battalion ought to march for Pagosa on Ruffner's road immediately, sending baggage around by Conejos. You will, however, best know what to do with them. I will immediately concentrate another battalion of four infantry companies at some point on the railroad, whence they can be rapidly sent to Pagosa, if needed. I think it will be well to have the garrison of Wingate ready to move toward Pagosa. Also, the first indication of an excitement or trouble among the southern bands of Utes must be met. It can be checked at the start, but very difficult later.

Let me know everything and I will send you all I have. Acknowledge receipt. I have no cavalry available, as you know.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 4, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 8, 1879.

Official copy:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Third indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 9, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence:

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Fourth indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 11, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, October 7, 1879.

(Received Washington, October 7, 1879—4.50 p. m.)

To General E. D. TOWNSEND,
Washington, D. C. :

Lieutenant Price, from Fortification Creek, writes, October 3d, that Payne has been able to hold the Indians; that he has been joined by Dodge's Company of Ninth Cavalry, and that Merritt must have reached him next day, 4th instant.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 9, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence :

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 11, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 8, 1879.

Official copy :

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., October 8, 1879.

To General E. D. TOWNSEND, U. S. A. :

News of the safety of Captain Payne's command confirmed ; particulars will be sent when received.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

CHICAGO, ILL., October 8, 1879.

General E. D. TOWNSEND, U. S. A.,
Washington, D. C.:

The following dispatch from General Crook just received. It looks reliable.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

FORT STEELE, WYO.,
October 8, 1879.

General P. H. SHERIDAN,
Chicago, Ill.:

The following just received at Rawlins and given you for what it is worth:

The mail-carrier says, in response to why General Merritt has not sent a courier, that he thought probably he has sent one and he was picked up by the Indians.

RAWLINS, the 8th—1.30 a. m.

GENERAL CROOK, Fort Steele:

Mail in. No dispatches. Mail-carrier reports that he left Snake River at one o'clock yesterday morning; that William Listige went with Merritt's command from Snake River to Payne's command, and returned to Snake River yesterday morning. Merritt had a severe fight with the Indians Monday afternoon, two miles east of Payne's command, thrashed the Indians, killing 37 of them, and formed a junction with the besieged garrison; the latter were all right, having lost but two men killed since they intrenched. The colored cavalry company joined Payne last Friday night, but had a severe fight in doing so, having lost all their horses but two. Merritt had conversation with the Indians under white flag, and told them they could surrender if they would give up arms and ponies. They wished to know if troops were going to agency; and, if so, they would fight to bitter end. Mail-carrier knows nothing of condition of officers and men in last week's fight. The second detachment from here were twenty-four hours behind Merritt. Indians stole stock at crossing of Snake River yesterday morning.

GILLISS.

GEO. CROOK,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 8, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 9, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War in his absence.

H. F. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 11, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., October 8, 1879.

General W. T. SHERMAN,
War Department ;

Your dispatch received. Captain Payne is all right. His command lost Thornburgh and eleven men killed. Three officers and forty men wounded. All but one slightly.

The command was relieved by Merritt on Sunday morning.

Dodge's company, Ninth Cavalry, had reached Payne the day before.

The above is official.

It is reported that Merritt has had an engagement. Particulars not officially known. It is reported, and probably so, that he killed 37 Indians.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

Forwarded from Saint Louis, Mo., October 10; 1879.

[First indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Adjutant-General.*ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 10, 1870.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 13, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War in his absence.

H. F. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 14, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, October 8, 1879.

To ADJUTANT GENERAL, W. D. C. :

The following telegram from General Pope is the one referred to in my telegram of this morning; the date of Captain Dodge's dispatch has been asked for from General Pope.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

The following is just received : Captain Dodge, being senior to Payne is, of course, in command of the whole force after he joined them.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General.

MILK RIVER, COLORADO,
Via Rawlins, W'g, October 8, 1879.

ADJUTANT GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas :

At daylight this morning I re-enforced the cavalry command of Major Thornburgh. Indians all around us and keep up a plunging fire on our pits. All our animals are dead. Cannot communicate with agency, but dare not hope that any one there is left alive. The command is in good spirits and we can hold out till succor arrives. We cannot move on account of the wounded, of whom there are 42, having no transportation to move them; the stench from the dead animals and distance from water are our great disadvantages; judging from their extravagance in its use the Indians are abundantly supplied with ammunition. It is impossible to anticipate their intentions or give an idea of their next move.

DODGE,
Captain Ninth Cavalry, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *October 9, 1879.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 9, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 11, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, 10, 21, 1879,
(Received Washington, 2.22 p. m.)

To ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY, *Washington D. C. :*

The following dispatch is repeated for the information of the General of the Army. General Pope has informed Colonel Hatch that Merritt has been withdrawn to White River agency, and also of the proposed disposition of the Fourth Cavalry.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

FORT LEWIS, *October 16, via Alamosa, October 19.*

To ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, *Fort Leavenworth :*

Since my report of council with Indians yesterday the interpreter and scout report that on the eighth six Indians came from the White River agency to the Southern

Utes; that night a war-dance was held, and many young warriors left with the White River Utes. The six Utes fired the young bucks with reports of great victory over Thornburgh's troops.

This morning Savan, Chief Chapotes, and Aquato of the Manchás came alone and reported the same.

It seems Ignacio had instructed his men that this information was to be withheld. These chiefs say it is impossible to control all their young bucks. On the 21st annuity goods will be issued by Colonel Page, when the missing Indians will be known. Also send the interpreter to agency who knows nearly every Indian in these tribes.

I shall be at Animas on the 20th when I hope to obtain information from Merritt's front.

If it is the intention to fight them, the Fourth Cavalry should come forward at once. We have rumors that conciliatory measures are being taken. If Merritt forces his way into the Uncompahge Park, the general commanding may think it best to send the Fourth, thus leaving me to do the work here with what I have. I am now in communication with Colonel Buell's command on the San Juan.

HATCH, Colonel.

OCTOBER 21, 1879.

Missouri division repeats telegram from Colonel Hatch, Fort Louis, October 16, 1879, that many young warriors of the Southern Utes have been induced by Indians from White River agency to join the hostiles. Ignacio and other chiefs say it is impossible to control all their young bucks; also that he is in communication with Buell's command.

General Sheridan has informed him that Merritt has been withdrawn to White River agency, and also of the proposed disposition of the Fourth Cavalry.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, October 22, 1879.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 22, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 24, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., October 10, 1879.

Gen. WM. T. SHERMAN,
Washington, D. C.:

I have nothing new from the Northern Utes this morning. General Crook notifies me that when all the troops now *en route* between Rawlins and White River agency join General Merritt, he will have a force of 1,500 men.

Instructions were sent from these headquarters to push on to the agency and to leave no stone unturned to punish those Indians who at-

tacked the troops and killed the agent and his employés, and that only their unconditional surrender should be accepted.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

OCTOBER 10, 1879.

Official copy.

R. C. DRUM,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 11, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 11, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 14, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,
October 14, 1879.

TO ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, Ill.

Following is repeated for information of Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General Commanding.

ALAMOSA, COLO., *October 14, 1879.*

TO ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas :

Commanding officer Fort Lewis reports, under date of October 11th, on Tuesday last Southern Utes assembled at agency. Some, under influence of liquor, behaved badly, which caused agent to prepare to leave. Twenty cattlemen from Pinos River went to agency and remained with agent two days.

From 500 to 600 Indians reported present on issue-days; wanted rations for absent families. When refused, showed great dissatisfaction. The absent Indians reported having gone north. Arrival of troops, of which people have been informed, at Animas and other places, has allayed fears.

Presence of troops in the immediate vicinity will alone satisfy settlers.

VALOIS,
Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,
October 14, 1879.

TO ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, Ill. :

The following is repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ALAMOSA, COLO., October 14, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth:

Reliable information just in from Ouray. Chief Ouray has his Indians under perfect control. Will see that freighters and others have no trouble. Citizens of Ouray have men and arms to spare.

VALOIS,
Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,
October 14, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, Ill. :

The following repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ALAMOSA, COLO., October 14, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas :

Captain Bean with H Company, Fifteenth, arrived at Fort Lewis October 11. Reports all quiet. Saw no Indians *en route*.

VALOIS,
Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 15, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Indorsements.]

OCTOBER 15, 1879.

Missouri division forwards copy of telegrams from General Pope, who repeats telegrams from Lieutenant Valois about affairs at Southern Ute Agency. He reports Ouray has his Indians under perfect control, and that citizens have men and arms to spare; also that Captain Bean, who arrived at Fort Lewis on 11th instant, saw no Indians, and reports all quiet.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 20, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 20, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 22, 1879.

Respectfully referred to Commissioner Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

CHICAGO, ILL., October 14, 1879.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL UNITED STATES ARMY:

The following dispatch is forwarded for the information of the General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

FORT OMAHA, NEBR., October 13.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago:

Merritt, under date of October 11, telegraphs to General Crook in substance as follows:

"This morning I moved my command down the river to a point near the new agency. All day I have had the cavalry with me out in three different parties to discover in which direction the Indians have gone.

"I have had reports from all save the one down the river beyond the new agency. All report that the trails lead southerly to Grand River.

"I cannot tell how badly I am off for competent scouts. Those I have are timid, and will go nowhere without a company of cavalry. One good Indian would be worth them all.

"Have but little doubt that Indians have gone to Uncompahgre Agency.

"Agency here is all completely burned.

"Have buried seven dead men, including Agent Moeker, here. Three buried on our road.

"I expect Gilbert and Henry to reach here to-morrow. After arrival of Gilbert's command, will move, if possible, towards Grand River. Am entirely in doubt as to force that can be mustered against me by hostiles.

"It is pretty well ascertained that all the Uintah Agency Indians who were willing have joined these Indians before Thornburgh's fight.

"If the orders are to go on to the Southern Agency and fight what we meet, I will be glad to carry them out. General Sheridan and you know more about that than I can, and I hope you will not delay giving me directions, information, and orders. You may be assured I will carry out your orders as far as it is possible to do so."

After saying that there are no Indians of whom he knows so little, and describing the great quantities of military supplies which have been sold these Indians by ranchmen, Colonel Merritt states that a later report from down the river confirms his supposition that the hostiles have all gone south, and reports his intention, as soon as Gilbert arrives, to move toward Grand River in the Uncompahgre Agency, with all his command, leaving a guard with the wagons behind here.

Lieutenant Bourke will reach Omaha to-morrow afternoon, and I hope to ascertain from him all instructions which have been given Merritt.

In absence of General Crook—

R. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

S. Ex. 31—6

With 6 Co 7 Reg. Inf. 3rd S. Inf. 2nd Div.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

[First indorsement.]

OCTOBER 14, 1879.

Lieutenant-General Sheridan forwards telegram from headquarters Department of the Platte, with information from General Merritt that he has moved near agency, has buried 10 men, including Agent Meeker, and will follow hostiles south towards Uncompahgre Agency when joined by Colonel Gilbert's command.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 15, 1879.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 15, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 17, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, October 13, 1879.

To General W. T. SHERMAN,
Washington, D. C. :

The latest official news from General Merritt is 9th instant. He says he has been joined by Major Bryant's command and will send back the wounded next day, and will move against the Indians.

There is no information here which goes to show that any of the Southern Ute bands will become hostile, and it is quite certain none have so far been engaged with the White River Utes.

I have at last succeeded in getting Crook to arrange for speedier information from Merritt.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

OCTOBER 13, 1879.

Lieutenant-General Sheridan telegraphs latest from General Merritt, 9th: Has been joined by Major Bryant's command, and will send back wounded next day and move against Indians.

No evidence of Southern Utes having become hostile, &c.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 14, 1879.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 15, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.
October 17, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D. C., October 13, 1879.

General P. H. SHERIDAN,
Commanding Division, Chicago :

The honorable Secretary of the Interior has this 10½ a. m. called with a dispatch, given at length below, which is communicated for your information, and which should go for what it is worth to Generals Crook and Merritt. The latter, on the spot, can tell if the hostiles have ceased fighting. If so, General Merritt should go in every event to the agency to ascertain the actual condition of facts. All Indians who oppose, must be cleaned out of the way if they resist. If they surrender their arms and ponies, they should be held as prisoners to be disposed of by superior orders.

The Secretary of the Interior will send a special agent at once to Ouray, who is believed to be honest and our friend. He may prevent the Southern Utes from being involved, and the Interior Department can befriend him afterward by showing favor to some of his special friends; but the murderers of the agent and servants must be punished, as also those who fought and killed Major Thornburgh and men.

Please acknowledge receipt.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

[Indorsement.]

General W. T. Sherman to Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan. Communicates telegram received by Interior Department from Los Pinos Agency, stating that Utes recognized and obeyed Ouray's order and withdrew and will fight no more, and stating that trouble can be settled by peace commissioners if soldiers are now stopped. Directs that it be sent to Generals Crook and Merritt, and gives directions and plans of future operations.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 13, 1879.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 15, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 17, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 14, 1879.

(From Chicago, Ill., to W. T. Sherman General, War Department.)

Your dispatches of yesterday have been sent to General Merritt by special courier. The latest news from White River Agency indicates that the Indians have carried off the women belonging to that agency.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

OCTOBER 14, 1879.

Lieutenant-General Sheridan telegraphs that he sent dispatches of the General of the Army of 13th to General Merritt by courier, and that latest news from White River indicates that the Indians have carried off the women of the agency.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 15, 1879.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 15, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 17, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, October 11, 1879.

To General W. T. SHERMAN,
Washington, D. C.:

No news from Merritt this morning. General Crook telegraphs that he has heard from Uintah Utes; that they are all quiet, and will not join hostiles. General Pope says Hatch received telegram from Mr. Beaumont, of Animas City, that Agent Page, of Southern Ute Agency, had gone to get his employés; that he was afraid of his life and would leave the agency. It is a little strange that this telegram should come from Mr. Beaumont, of Animas City, instead of the agent himself, who is a good man, and was an officer of the Army during the war. Therefore, I don't take much stock in the information.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

OCTOBER 11, 1879.

Lieutenant-General Sheridan reports no news from Merritt. General Crook reports Uintah Utes quiet and will not join hostiles. General Pope has received telegram from Mr. Beaumont that Agent Page, of Southern Ute Agency, had gone to get his employés, as he was afraid of his life and would leave agency.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 October 14, 1879.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 15, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 17, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, October 19, 1879.

To General W. T. SHERMAN,
Washington, D. C.:

I received your dispatch of yesterday, last night. Your suggestions in reference to columns at Pagosa and Alamosa have, to some extent,

been anticipated by General Pope. Hatch has at Pagossa and beyond a column of eight companies of infantry and four companies of cavalry. There is now being organized at Garland, which is a better point than Alamosa, a column of six companies of the Fourth Cavalry and five companies of infantry, to which can be added two more companies of infantry, and I can also add six more companies of cavalry, now at Rawlins Station, making a force of eighteen companies, aggregating at least nine hundred men. General Merritt had followed the hostiles in the direction of the Uncompahgre Agency, as he had notified me, but turned back on receiving your dispatch of the 13th. Had he gone on, it was my intention to have supplied him from the south by his own request, so that there need have been no fears on the part of the Interior Department regarding his supplies. My telegram related to the pass between Rawlins and White River Agency. We now understand this affair in all its bearings, and will not give you any further trouble, except to send information as it arrives. I regret that Merritt was not permitted to go on, as I have not the slightest belief that Ouray can deliver up the murderers, and I fear valuable time will be lost. After your dispatch of the 13th, I directed Crook to send to White River Agency supplies in abundance before the deep snows come on, and will assume the risk of keeping Merritt with his present force at that point, to await further developments. I understand that country pretty well. My last summer's trips give me a very fair knowledge of the country in the vicinity of the Los Pinos Agency and south of that place.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

October 19, 1879. Missouri Division reports that telegram of 18th, relative to columns at Pagossa and Alamosa, was partly anticipated by General Pope, and that a column is now being organized at Garland. Regrets Merritt was not allowed to go on, and fears valuable time will be lost. Also reports arrangements made to supply Merritt's command.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 20, 1879.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 20, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 23, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
October 16, 1879.

To the ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.:

The following is reported for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ALAMOSA, COLO., October 15, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.:

The following just received from Page, Indian agent Southern Utes, addressed to Colonel Hatch, dated October 12:

Ignacio's band are, with few exceptions, on reservation near agency; Pi-Utes on the Moucos and Dolores. I have told Utes that I would not ask for troops at agency if they remain on reservation and behave themselves, which they seem to be doing, although the slightest thing might cause a change. The greatest danger is that White River Utes may come this way and excite these Indians to war. By request of Indian council I sent, the 6th instant, courier informing Ouray and White River Utes that they need not expect aid from Southern Utes.

VALOIS,
Acting Assistant Quartermaster, in charge of Office.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 17, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
October 17, 1879.

To ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.:

The following is repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General:

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ALAMOSA, COLO., October 16, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.:

Nothing new. Mail from Fort Lewis delayed in snows in the mountains.

VALOIS,
Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 18, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,

October 18, 1879.

Col. W. D. WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Chicago, Ill.:

Dispatch just received from Alamosa reports no news of any consequence from Southwest Colorado.

JOHN POPE,

Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,

Chicago, October 18, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

General Sheridan, October 17 and 18, forwards copies of dispatches from General Pope, communicating information from Lieutenant Valois, Indian Agent Page, and Colonel Hatch relative to disposition of Southern band of Utes. Mail delayed in snow in mountains. No news from Alamosa and Southwest Colorado, &c., &c.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

October 22, 1879.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., October 22, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,

Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

October 23, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,

Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., October 17, 1879.

General W. T. SHERMAN,

Washington, D. C.:

General Merritt says in a dispatch just received that he intends to march in pursuit of the hostile Indians to Grand River on the 15th, and

from there to the Uncompahgre Agency, where he requests supplies to be sent. Subsequently your dispatch of October 13th was sent to him, with orders to obey the directions therein given, and I presume this will stop him. Your dispatch should have reached him on 15th. General Merritt, and General Crook, the department commander, are at a loss to know what to do, and so am I. There are fifteen or sixteen hundred men at White River. Their road there is over the main range of the Rocky Mountains. The road is bad, and the danger of being caught by winter snow should be seriously entertained. We went to the agency at the solicitation of the Indian Bureau, whose agent was murdered and our men killed and wounded, and now we are left in the heart of the mountains with our hands tied and the danger of being snowed in staring us in the face. I am not easily discouraged, but it looks as though we had been pretty badly sold out in this business. It is folly to say that the murderers of the agent and Colonel Thornburgh must be punished. How are they to be punished and who is going to punish them, and how long are we to await at the agency for it to be done? I will direct Crook to throw into the agency all the supplies he possibly can, as the only course left open.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[Telegram]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, October 17, 1879.

To General P. H. SHERIDAN,
Commanding Division, Chicago, Ill.:

Dispatch of to-day received. I will approve emphatically anything General Merritt may do towards punishing the White River Utes for their perfidy and the murders committed, and will sanction any amount of expense necessary to supply his command wherever it may go. But meantime I have called on the Secretary of the Interior, categorically, to know if he wants this military force to remain at the White River Agency, or to go on to the Los Pinos Agency, and will let you know the moment I receive my answer.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D. C., October 17, 1879.

DEAR SIR: I have a telegram from General Sheridan saying he had a message from General Merritt to the effect, that to punish the hostile Utes, he would on the 15th instant move from White River for the Grand River and the Los Pinos Agency, but General Sheridan supposes that before starting General Merritt will have received my dispatch of October 13, notifying him of the appointment of Special Agent Adams, and to be governed in his conduct by his instructions.

Do you want General Merritt's force of about one thousand men to be at the White River, or at the Los Pinos Agency? Some one must determine this question, and as the Interior Department has charge of the Ute Indians, and the military is acting to support the Indian Department in its management of this tribe of Indians, I beg of you to

inform me whether you prefer this military force shall be at the Los Pinos Agency or at White River.

Your obedient servant,

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

Hon. CARL SCHURZ,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D. C., October 17, 1879.

General P. H. SHERIDAN,
Commanding Division, Chicago, Ill. :

I have just seen the honorable Secretary of the Interior, who will answer your dispatch officially to-morrow. He says he does not expect to hear from Special Agent Adams until Wednesday of next week, who is known to be on the road from Alamosa to Los Pinos Agency. You may, therefore, if not too late, hold Merritt's command, or such part of it as you deem sufficient, at White River, and proceed to collect another force, preferably under Mackenzie, at Alamosa, to operate from that direction in case Agent Adams fails in his mission, and makes a further requisition for military help to capture the guilty Utes.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D. C., October 18, 1879.

Hon. GEO. W. MCCRARY,
Secretary of War, Keokuk, Iowa :

Merritt has thoroughly scoured the country about White River, but the mountains to the south are so high and covered with snow, that, on consultation with the honorable Secretary of the Interior, I have instructed General Sheridan that Merritt need not expose his command to cross over to Los Pinos, but to leave at White River a force sufficient to prevent return of the hostilities to that quarter, and proceed to collect at Alamosa, in Southern Colorado, another command which can operate for that quarter, after Special Agent Adams has made demand on Ouray, principal chief of the Utes, for surrender of murderers and been unsuccessful.

I suppose it is the true office of the Secretary of the Interior to take the initiative, and our business to act after he has exhausted his power.

The troops have done all that was possible up to date.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D. C., October 18, 1879.

General P. H. SHERIDAN,
Commanding Division, Chicago, Ill.:

In connection with my dispatch of last night, I now telegraph you entire a letter this moment received from the honorable Secretary of the Interior. I do not deem it wise to make orders to you concerning the conduct of your troops, but to communicate to you the objects we desire to have accomplished, and to leave you and the actual commanders of the troops to act according to their better knowledge of the geography and resources of the country in which they have to operate.

The troops have relieved Captain Payne's command and have possession of the agency where the agent and employés were murdered. This was the first step, indispensable, and has been thoroughly and well accomplished. The next step is to secure the murderers for punishment. The Secretary of the Interior is the party to decide on the proper course, and the military should respond to his call, or that of his special agent, viz, Adams, and this you may construe as our duty. You may reduce the force at White River to a number adequate to prevent the return of the hostile Utes to White River, recall to Fort Steele all the surplus, and then proceed with all possible dispatch to collect at Alamosa another force which can operate about Los Pinos, or further south, during this season of the year.

The murderers may be surrendered by Ouray, or they may have to be fought or picked up in detail.

Please acknowledge receipt of this and report if you think General Merritt can be reached in time.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 18, 1879.

GENERAL: In reply to your letter of yesterday, referring to General Sheridan's dispatch in which he expressed his apprehensions as to the difficulties likely to attend a movement of General Merritt's troops across the mountain ridge between the White River and the Los Pinos Agencies, which dispatch you communicated to me in full at our interview subsequent to the receipt of your letter, I have the honor to say that General Charles Adams, the special agent of this department, will probably reach the Los Pinos Agency to-day or to-morrow. As you know, he is instructed to ascertain, if possible, the present whereabouts of the White River Utes, and succeeding in this to use every effort, with the aid of Chief Ouray, to bring about their surrender. I may have a telegraphic report from him by Wednesday next; it will probably then appear whether that surrender can be accomplished without the assistance of a considerable body of troops or not.

In the meantime I fully agree with the opinion you expressed at our interview last night, that General Merritt should not at present undertake the hazardous march across the mountain divide, but remain at or near White River, and that another body of troops be concentrated at Alamosa to act as the condition of things at Los Pinos and the southern Ute Agency may require. I shall without delay inform General Adams of the instructions telegraphed by you to General Sheridan last night, and direct him to put himself in communication not only with

General Merritt, as ordered before, but also with the commander of the forces at Alamosa, keeping both these officers fully advised of the situation of things.

Very truly, your obedient servant,

C. SCHURZ,
Secretary.

General W. T. SHERMAN, U. S. A.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO,
ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Santa Fé, N. Mex., October 19, 1879

SIR: The district commander directs that you use every endeavor to ascertain if the rumors and reports relative to Indians running off stage stock between the Little Colorado and Camp Verde are true, and report the facts to this office at once with the latest results in the premises. It is also important that you also ascertain and report at the same time if the Navajoe Indians in your vicinity are in any way connected with the affair, and whether they have evinced any disposition to be troublesome or take part with other Indians in hostilities.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN S. LOUD,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Ninth Cavalry, A. A. A. General.
The COMMANDING OFFICER,
Fort Wingate, N. Mex.

Official copy:

JOHN S. LOUD,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Ninth Cavalry, A. A. A. General.

HEADQUARTERS FORT WINGATE, N. MEX.,
October 21, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 19, in which the district commander directs that I use every endeavor to ascertain whether the Indians have run off stage stock between the Little Colorado River and Camp Verde, and also whether the Navajoe Indians are in any way connected with the affair, and whether the Navajoes have evinced any disposition to be troublesome or take part with other Indians in hostilities.

In reply I would respectfully report that no rumors or reports have reached this office of any Indians running off stage stock between here and Camp Verde, or anywhere in this vicinity; nor have I heard any complaints made of the Navajoes being troublesome, or evincing any disposition to take any part with other Indians in hostilities. I have just returned from the Navajoe Indian Agency, where I went in person to witness the issue of annuity goods to these Indians on the 16th and 17th instant. I was in the Navajoe country five days. I returned on the evening of the 17th. I have witnessed four issues of annuity goods to these Indians. Having made two myself as agent, I never witnessed a more peaceable or quiet issue. The Indians appeared perfectly satisfied. It was a very full count; over 8,000 were counted into the corral,

and with the tickets that were issued to chiefs for those who could not attend in person, the count reached 11,000 Navajoe Indians.

I had several talks with the principal chief, subchiefs, and with a great many other Indians. They appeared to understand that the Utes and Apaches were on the war path, but couldn't give or imagine (as they said) any reason why. Those living near the Ute country said that the Utes should receive no protection from them; that they should advise and should see to it that all Navajoes should move on this side of the San Juan River, and that none of them should join either the Utes or Apaches; that they were very sure that none of the Navajoes had any idea of (or desired to) do anything of the kind.

I was with them constantly for three days, and kept very close watch of their every movement, and I saw nothing that looked the least suspicious. All of the principal chiefs assured the agent and myself that if they heard anything that looked at all suspicious they would let us know immediately.

I will make further inquiries in regard to the depredations mentioned in your letter, and if I hear anything in regard to them will inform you at once.

I would respectfully say to the district commander that, in my opinion, there should be at least two companies of soldiers kept at this post all the time, and one should be a company of cavalry. With two companies of troops at this post, in my opinion, there need be no apprehension felt in regard to the Navajoe Indians; but with the limited force now here no one can tell what might enter the heads of some of the restless young men. We should be able to send out mounted men to immediately investigate any reported irregularity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. F. BENNETT,

Captain Ninth Cavalry, Commanding Post.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

District of New Mexico, Santa Fé, N. Mex.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT NEW MEXICO,

Santa Fé, N. Mex., October 25, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, Department of the Missouri, for the information of the department commander, inviting attention to inclosed copy of letter of 15th instant from this office on which this letter is based.

In the absence of Colonel Hatch,

JOHN S. LOUD,

First Lieutenant and Adjutant Ninth Cavalry, A. A. A. General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,

Fort Leavenworth, October 30, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general Military Division of the Missouri for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding.

JNO. POPE,

Breret Major-General, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, November 1, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant General, Commanding.

CAMP ON WHITE RIVER,
October 19, 1879.

GENERAL: The dispatch announcing the appointment of General Charles Adams as special agent, &c., was received last night. Everything is quiet here; no signs of hostilities.

Under orders in dispatch of the General of the Army (duplicate of which was received last night), I am in camp near the agency.

In view of the approach of possible bad weather and the delay in operations, I feel it my duty to report the character of this country and the roads leading to this camp from Rawlins during the winter.

I. In this vicinity, owing to the animals belonging to the Indians having been confined to the range all summer, and the fires which have since been set out by the Indians, there are no camps where cavalry can be long subsisted without forage, even in fair weather. In case of snow, such as is reported to exist here at times, it would be utterly impossible to graze.

II. Between here and Bear River there are at least three passes which become, I am told and should suppose, utterly impassable in case of heavy snows. They are at a considerable elevation above the river levels and of the nature of cañons, where heavy drifts must be found.

Beyond here (south), as far as my observations and scouts have extended, the country is much of the same character. The Lone Tree Creek passes over the ranges between here and Grand River, is utterly impassable for wagons, and almost so for animals in bad weather.

I think, with cavalry and infantry and pack trains, almost any of this country may be penetrated in fair weather; but in winter I am convinced, although possible to operate in it, the character of the campaigning will be very difficult.

Of course if it is found impossible to supply all my command here, part of it, during the peace commission delay, can be moved on to Bear River or Williams Fork, where the camps are better and to which the roads are more practicable. No change of the kind is recommended or will be made, save in case of extreme necessity.

I report these facts because I think the attention of the proper officers should be called to them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MERRITT,
Colonel, &c., Commanding.

General GEORGE CROOK,
Commanding Department of the Platte,
(Care of officer in charge Rawlins.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., October 24, 1879.

Official copy respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general United States Army, headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding.

GEORGE CROOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 28, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

In the absence of the Lieutenant-General commanding,
WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant General.

[Indorsements.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 3, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCURRY,
Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 4, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
R. JOSEPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS., *October 19, 1879.*

Col. W. D. WHIPPLE, A. A. G.,
Chicago, Ill. :

The following telegram, just received, is forwarded for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

FORT LEWIS, COLO., *October 19,*
(Via Alamosa, Col., October 19.)

TO ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas :

The chief and head men of the Manchos, Weminuches, and Capotes came in to-day. They declare their intention of remaining at peace and to have nothing to do with the White River Utes. They send couriers to them to-day to so inform them. Colonel Page came in with the Indians and sent couriers to Uncompahgre from Animas City, by Ouray, for information. Should hear from there on 20th. Commands move out to Animas if necessary. Can cross to Ouray, eighty miles, as well as hold the Indians in check, head, and look out for small parties escaping from Merritt. I had not been able to learn anything of Merritt, except in way of rumors that he is advancing south from White River. The Indians informed me that Beedl's command is in the settlements on the San Juan. His courier has not reached me.

HATCH.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,

Chicago, October 20, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, October 24, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Third endorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., October 25, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence,

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Fourth indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

October 28, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS WHITE RIVER EXPEDITION,

Camp on White River, Colorado, October 21.

General GEORGE CROOK,

*Commanding Department of the Platte, at**Rawlins, Wyo., or by telegraph to Omaha, Nebr.:*

GENERAL: Your dispatches of the 16th and 18th, inclosing one from the Lieutenant-General of the division, were received last night. I cannot but express my appreciation of your kindness in fully representing and understanding my situation here, being equipped for a campaign by one arm of the government and halted in its execution by another arm of the same government, on the verge of a winter in a country where all campaigning very shortly will be beyond human execution. The party of Indians in our front, which attacked Lieutenant Hall and killed Lieutenant Weir, is small. They fly at once on the approach of the cavalry, and it is not possible to overtake them.

Lieutenant Hall's party killed two of them, and it is thought that Lieutenant Weir and Hamme inflicted some damage on them. To pursue them until our supply trains are up is out of the question, and to go beyond this under the instructions from the departments is to me one

*Scout Hamme (a civilian)
(no Hamme my)*

of doubtful propriety. Evans is not yet up, though I have sent wagons to meet him and help him along, and I hope he will be in to-day or to-morrow. Part of my command is now out of rations, and the remainder is rationed only to include the 25th and 28th. We have succeeded in getting fresh beef from the agency cattle, and will not suffer for food if the supply trains arrive between now and the 13th. I do not know what Evans has in his train, nor how large it is, certainly.

I shall remain here awaiting supplies, or until orders reach me, as I have indicated in former dispatches.

Very respectfully,

W. MERRITT,
Colonel, &c., Commanding.

Respectfully forwarded.

BRACKETT,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., October 23, 1879.

Official copy respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding.

GEORGE CROOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 25, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 29, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 29, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War in his absence,

H. F. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 30, 1877.

Respectfully referred to Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. JOSEPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

October

HEADQUARTERS WHITE RIVER EXPEDITION,
Camp on White River, Colo., 21st, via Rawlins, 22d.

General GEO. CROOK,

Commanding Department of the Platte, Fort Omaha, Nebr.:

Yesterday I detailed two companies of cavalry, under Captain Wessells and Lieutenant Hall, with party of scouts, to proceed towards the summit between this and Grand River, to examine a trail which was reported better than the one we were on when our march was stopped. Lieutenant Weir accompanied Hall's party by my permission. Hall proceeded with his party, and failed to have with him the companies of cavalry which had preceded him on the road, with permission to halt and graze when they reached good ground for the purpose. After proceeding about twenty miles, Hall's party was fired into by Indians, and, taken at a disadvantage, were corralled until night, when he came into camp, with all save Lieutenant Weir and Mr. Humme, in charge of scouts. Just before Lieutenant Hall was fired into, Lieutenant Weir and Humme detached themselves from the party to shoot at some deer about a mile distant. Firing was heard in their direction, which at the time was thought to be their own at game. Now it is known they were attacked by the same Indians who attacked Hall. At nine o'clock last night, immediately after Hall's return, reporting the absence of Lieutenants Weir and Humme, I detached the battalion of the Fifth Cavalry to proceed to the scene of the Indian attack to look for Lieutenant Weir and his companion. Up to this time, 8 a. m., I have had no report from the battalion. The party which attacked Hall was not a large one. From all the circumstances connected with the attack of Lieutenant Weir, it is believed he is safe, but has lost his horses. I hope for the best.

Later.—The worst fears are realized. Lieutenant Weir's body has been found. He was shot through the head and killed instantly. A noble Christian gentleman and soldier has thus been made a victim to these fiends in human shape. Lieutenant Weir was an enthusiastic hunter, and only a few days since, near the place where he was killed, I had occasion to warn him of the danger he was exposed to in hunting away from the command. Yesterday he, in common with every one else, had no idea that the Indians who were being treated with by the government were out on any murderous mission, and he took greater risks. So great was the feeling of security, that the officer sent in charge of the party to explore the trail did not think any cavalry was necessary with his party, but I insisted on his taking with him two companies of cavalry. Words fail to express my sorrow at this misfortune. Hunting away from or in the vicinity of my command, on the march or in camp, has been forbidden, though fishing and hunting have been permitted to a small extent on White River. I would not intimate that Lieutenant Weir was reckless, for he only shared the views of most of the younger officers that the country for most part was safe, so far as hostiles were concerned. It is probable that he was killed by Indians in ambush at the first fire. Lieutenant Hall's party was fired at in this way, and all escaped only by a miracle. It is thought Humme has escaped, and he is being looked for now. Lieutenant Weir's body is being brought in, and will be sent north at once. To Lieutenant Weir's large circle of friends and relatives the heartfelt condolences of this command are extended. He was a favorite with us all, and we feel as though our brother had been stricken

down without premonition, but, thank God, not without an abiding faith in the promises of the future world.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MERRITT,
Colonel, Commanding.

Respectfully forwarded.

BRACKETT, *Colonel.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF PLATTE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., October 23, 1874.

Official copy respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general U. S. A., headquarters, Military Division of the Missouri, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding.

GEORGE CROOK,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 25, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *October 29, 1879.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 31, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. MCCRARY,
Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 1, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. JOSEPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
October 23, 1879.

To ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill. :

The following, just received, is repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

842158

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

FORT LEWIS, COLO., *October 18, 1879.*
(Via Alamosa, Colo., October 23.)

Leave in the morning for Los Pinos and Animas. Shall probably have information on 20th of Merritt's movements, and learn accurately the number of Indians gone north from Southern Utes.

HATCH, *Colonel.*

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
October 23, 1879.

To ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.:

The following telegram is repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. A., Commanding.

LOS PINOS RIVER, ABOVE AGENCY, *October 20.*
(Via Alamosa, Colo., October 22, 1879.)

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.:

At request of Page, Indian agent, have halted mounted men during issue of annuity to-morrow.

Couriers expected from Ouray have not arrived to-day. Look for them to-morrow. Page sent two more couriers on the 18th.

The Indians have sent two chiefs to recall their young men who have gone north. Some returned to-day on information that troops were arriving. We are only eighty miles from Ouray. Should have information earlier than it is possible to obtain via Lake City.

Am in communication with Jewett, who is about forty miles south.

HATCH, *Colonel.*
 VALOIS,
Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 24, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *October 28, 1879.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 29, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence:

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 30, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. JOSEPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, October 23, 1879.

General W. T. SHERMAN,
Washington D. C.:

The following telegram from General Crook is sent for your information.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

Merritt reports from White River October 21, in substance, that on 20th he had sent two companies of cavalry, under Wessell, to examine a trail leading to Grand River. Lieutenant Hall, with some scouts, was also sent out for same purpose, and with them Lieutenant Weir was permitted to go. Weir, with one of the scouts, left Hall to shoot at some deer. Shortly afterwards Hall was fired into by Utes, and his party corralled until night, when the party came into camp without Weir. Merritt sent the battalion Fifth Cavalry to look for Weir, and he reports that Weir's body has been found, shot through the head. He reports that the affair occurred about twenty miles from White River. Copy of Merritt's dispatch will be sent you by mail.

GEO. CROOK,
Brigadier-General.

MISSOURI DIVISION,
Chicago, October 23, 1879.

Lieutenant-General Sheridan reports dispatch from General Crook reporting that Merritt sent two companies cavalry, under Wessells, to examine trail leading to Grand River; also Lieutenant Hall and some scouts. With them was Lieut. W. B. Weir, who left the party to shoot at some deer, when he was fired into by some Utes and killed.

E. D. TOWNSEND.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 25, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence:

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
October 28, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, October 24, 1879.

General W. T. SHERMAN,
Washington, D. C.:

MacKenzie will have in his column, I may safely say, twelve hundred men. Hatch has four hundred and seventy-two. Events may so turn that they cannot be united. I will, therefore, in case the present negotiations fail, draw another regiment of infantry from the Department of Dakota, but will not do it unless MacKenzie has to move his column to

the front. I did not think it safe to move Merritt back to the railroad, as you directed me to do, until sufficient supplies had been accumulated to last the garrison to be left at the agency all winter. The hostiles are not far south of the White River Agency, and might come back again, and close in a small garrison and get it in a bad fix. I have, therefore, held Merritt for the present and will bring him out when supplies have been gotten. In mean time perhaps something else may occur. I take it that if MacKenzie's column should move it will have to push north of the Los Pinos Agency, as the Indians in all probability will be found not far south of White River Agency.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D. C., October 25, 1879.

To General P. H. SHERIDAN,
Commanding Division, Chicago, Ill.:

I have never ordered or advised the withdrawal of Colonel Merritt's force back to their posts or to the railroad; on the contrary, that force should remain there, stripped of all surplus impediments, and be supplied as it best can be, so as to co-operate with Mackenzie and Hatch coming from the south.

Agent Adams must now be with the Utes, and many days ought not to expire before the hostiles will comply with the demand of the Interior Department or fail to do so, when official notice will be given you, and every effort, must be made to punish them to the extent of possibility. We are fully aware of the approach of winter and of all difficulties, but cannot escape them. Everything should be done by department commanders in advance to make the dangers and difficulties as small as possible, and *carte blanche* is given to that end. If Agent Adams can save the lives of those poor captives, and secure terms of surrender acceptable to the government, it is manifestly the duty of the army to conform.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

[First Indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 25, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 25, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence :

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

October 28, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,

Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,

Washington, D. C., October 24, 1879.

General P. H. SHERIDAN,

Commanding Division, Chicago, Ill. :

I have received your three dispatches of yesterday, giving account of the killing of Lieutenant Weir, and of the strength of your several forces at White River, Forts Garland, and Lewis. All these seem strong enough and are well commanded. Let all preparations proceed, and be ready the moment I give the word to pitch in. Should Agent Adams fail in his mission, I understand that the civil authorities will stand aside and the military will take absolute control of this whole Ute question and settle it for good and all. Meantime, humanity to the captive women and the friendly Utes, even of the White River Agency, justify this seeming waste of time.

W. T. SHERMAN,

General.

Proposed answer read in Cabinet and approved.

W. T. SHERMAN,

General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY,

Washington, October 24, 1879.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,

October 24, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Military Division Missouri, Chicago, Ill. :

The following is repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,

Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

LOS PINOS RIVER, October 21, 1879.

(Via Alamosa, Colo., October 4, 1879.)

To the ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Department Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.:

The agent issued to-day annuities to two hundred families. My interpreter, who knows every Indian, says Charlie Ojo Blanco, Coreante of the Manchors, with twenty lodges, are north, and fifty of the young bucks of Winnemuckas are with the White River Utes. The courier arrived from Uncompahgre with information of Merritts advance south. Captain Jack and band on Cucharas River. Not known whether the absent Indians from here are with him. It is known they are north. The following from Adams, commissioner, of October 17: "I proceed to camp of Douglass to-morrow; expect to secure release of Meeker family and other captives without conditions, and return here on 25th."

The transportation that Dodge has with him I want; if taken by Merritt, which is probable, can the deficiency be supplied? My column is near Animas, ready to act should Merritt drive the White River Utes south on the Dolorés, or cross the mountain if required to Ouray. I am assured now if you had not pushed the troops to this section every warrior of the Southern Utes would have gone north. I have no faith in chiefs preventing them, as much depends upon Merritt's movements. I hope to obtain information from runners on the 23d.

HATCH, *Colonel.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,
Chicago, October 25, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 4, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCURRY,
Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 7, 1879,

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
R. JOSEPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 25, 1879.

(From Chicago, Ill.)

To General E. D. TOWNSEND :

The commanding officer at Fort Douglas telegraphs that there is no truth, as far as he can learn, in report contained in Associated Press dispatches of yesterday, that Uintah Utes and Snakes are on war-path. He will keep a lookout and report further.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 25, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., October 27, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

[Third indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

October 30, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. JOSEPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, ILL., October 26, 1879.

(Received Washington, October 26, 1879, 3.42 p. m.)

To General W. T. SHERMAN,
Washington, D. C. :

Colonel Merritt reports that Special Agent General Adams reached his camp night of 23d, and reports the white women of the agency safe, and that they were delivered over to him by the Indians, and are *en route* to their friends safe and sound.

Colonel Merritt says that General Adams will report to Indian Bureau what the Indians are willing to do as to the means of peace. Colonel Merritt says the weather is very good, and he hopes it will not become bad until he can move against the hostiles who are encamped on river near trail, their women and children being on Plateau Creek.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant General.

[First indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 27, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Second indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., October 27, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

For the Secretary of War, in his absence.

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

October 30, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. JOSEPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.

FORT UNION, N. MEX.,

October 27, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report:

I left Fort Lewis, Colo., July 21, in compliance with instructions from

headquarters District of New Mexico, dated July 5, 1879, for the purpose of scouting in the Middle Park. My route lay via Fort Garland, Panguache, Fair Play, and Breckinridge.

I arrived at the crossing of Grand River, near the mouth of Troublesome Creek, in the Park, August 17, and there established a supply camp. My orders required me to prevent any collision between the Indians and settlers in that region, and I at once endeavored to learn the state of feeling between the two people, and, if possible, the cause for it.

Many complaints were made against the Utes for having fired the timber in various places through the Middle and North Parks; for an indiscriminate slaughter of game out of season, and merely for the hides; for burning grass, hay, and buildings of the whites, and for threats and insolence to the isolated settlers and their families. One instance was related where a party of Indians went to a man's house, borrowed some matches, and with them set fire to his hay-stack near by, which nearly destroyed his entire property. Other cases were mentioned of the Indians forcing the white women to cook for them; and another of a ranchman having been driven entirely out of the country. These cases were all located in the North Park, and I could not verify them.

About the end of August, Jack and Souick, two chiefs from White River Agency, came into my camp. They professed friendship, and seemed satisfied with their treatment at the agency; they had just come from Denver, where they had been on a visit to Governor Pitkin, with the result of which they seemed much pleased.

When I spoke to them about burning the timber, &c., they replied that there might be one or two bad Indians whom the chiefs could not control who had done so, but that the greater part of the tribe was entirely innocent of such practices. However, a few days after their visit, a fire broke out on the Gore Range, which was said to be the work of these same chiefs, and I think it probably was.

The past season has been unusually dry, and a fire once started might spread indefinitely. A great amount of damage has been done, but I am thoroughly convinced that the Indians were only partially responsible for it.

Great numbers of hunting parties frequent these parks during the summer and fall months, and doubtless many of these fires are due to their carelessness, others to the actual settlers themselves; but there seems to be this distinction, that while the fires were the result of carelessness on the one hand, on the part of the Indians they were set intentionally and in a mischievous spirit, for the sole purpose of annoying the whites. The charge of killing game out of season, &c., seems well founded.

In regard to the treatment of the families of the settlers by the Indians, I have no means of proving the truth or falsity of the reports, as I saw none of the people who had suffered; but the accounts were so positive and uncontradictory that I am obliged to believe in their accuracy.

On the 5th of September I started on a scout through Egeria Park, and down Bear River as far as Windsor, returning on the 24th to the supply camp. I could neither find nor hear of any Indians off their reservation, although they had undoubtedly been off in large numbers. They seem to be aware of the movement of the company, and tried to avoid it, always returning to their reservation whenever it approached them.

While at Windsor, I first heard that Agent Meeker had been roughly

handled by an Indian named Johnson, and laid over there while the mail went down to the agency, and returned, in order to give him (the agent) an opportunity to call for assistance or protection if he needed it. I was within sixty miles of the agency, forty by the trail, and could easily have gone there in two days, but did not feel authorized to do so until assured that the presence of troops was necessary to protect life and property. The accounts of the difficulty, too, as I had heard them, were so contradictory that I was inclined to give them little credence.

Upon my return to Middle Park I found orders to return to the White River Agency with the least practicable delay, for the purpose of breaking up illegitimate trading establishments, and forcing a return of the Indians to the reservation. I was also ordered to act in accord with Agent Meeker and under his direction.

Leaving my supply camp on Grand River on the 27th ultimo, for the White River Agency, in compliance with telegrams from headquarters District of New Mexico, dated September 13 and 18, respectively, I had marched to and camped on a small stream emptying into Bear River, ten or fifteen miles south of Steamboat Springs, by the 30th.

I left camp as usual on the 1st instant, at 6.30 a. m. After marching about ten miles, a paper was found in the sage brush by the side of the road, on which was written the following: "Hurry up, the troops have been defeated at the agency," and signed "E. E. C." Ordering the train to keep closed up with the column, I pushed forward to Hayden, which I found deserted.

While searching the buildings here a party of citizens came up, among them a Mr. Gordon, who had left the intrenchments two days before, and from whom I learned the exact situation.

I then moved down Bear River as rapidly as possible until 4.30 p. m., when I went into camp, causing all ordinary dispositions to be made for a night's rest.

Having seen that my men were supplied with one hundred and twenty-five rounds of ammunition and three days' rations per man, I ordered the wagons repacked at half past eight, and with a guard of eight men sent them to Price's supply camp on Fortification Creek, while I started with the rest of the company for Payne's command. I took with me one pack mule, on which was carried a couple of blankets and a few picks and spades. The force left me consisted of two officers and thirty-five soldiers, and four citizens. Gordon and a citizen named Lithgow having volunteered to act as guides, I decided to follow a trail in preference to the road. The night was bright and cold, and the march unimpeded. At four o'clock we reached the river road, about five miles from the intrenchments, and shortly afterward came upon the dead bodies of three men who were lying in a gulch, near which a train loaded with annuity goods had been burnt by the Indians. Half an hour later we arrived at Payne's command.

Singularly enough the Indians did not molest us in the least up to this time, and I can only account for it by supposing that they imagined a much stronger force coming in, and were unwilling to expose themselves. However, we were scarcely inside the trenches when they commenced a fusillade, which was kept up at intervals for the next three days. Of forty-two animals taken into the trenches with my company but four are left, and these are wounded. I made the best disposition of them I could, but it was impossible to shelter them on all sides, and the Indians completely surrounded us.

The command was corralled on a small plateau on the right bank of Mill Creek, and about a hundred yards from it, while some five hundred

yards further back a mountain afforded the Indians ample protection, and enabled them to keep up a plunging fire on our position without being themselves exposed. On the other (south) side the mountains were higher and more rugged, but more distant, yet still within easy range of their rifles. At night, a few Indians would occasionally crawl up the creek bottom, apparently within a hundred yards of us, and open fire. But one man was wounded in going for water, although the party sent out for that purpose was frequently fired on. Our greatest trouble was in hauling out the dead animals at night, and watering and feeding those that remained.

General Merritt's command arrived on the morning of the 5th instant relieving us from our awkward situation, and on the 10th I was ordered to take the remnant of Payne's companies with my own and the wounded back to Rawlins, which place I reached October 19.

On the morning of the 21st instant the company started for Fort Union, at which post it arrived on the 23d instant.

In conclusion, I wish to say a word in favor of the enlisted men of my command whose conduct throughout was exemplary. They endured a forced march of seventy miles, loss of sleep, lack of food, and the deprivations attendant upon their situation without a murmur, and have proven themselves good soldiers and reliable men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. S. DODGE,

Captain Ninth Cavalry, Commanding Company D.

The ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL,

Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,

Fort Leavenworth, November 12, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding.

Attention invited to indorsement, dated October 29, 1879, from these headquarters, upon previous report of this officer.

In the absence of the brevet major-general commanding.

E. R. PLATT,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSOURI,

Chicago, November 17, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., November 25, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCRARY,

Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

December 2, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,

Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., October 24, 1879.

(Received at Department of the Interior October 28, 1.10 p. m.)

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, D. C. :

Women and children safe at Ouray's house, but somewhat destitute of clothing; will be provided for here. Ladies returned in charge of George D. Sherman, clerk at this agency, and W. M. Cline, of Cimarron, with escort of my Utes. General Adams gone to hunt Merritt's command, who is said to be advancing. Douglas refused Secretary Schurz's invitation to come here.

STANLEY, Agent.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,

October 29, 1879.

To ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill. :

The following is repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General :

JNO. POPE,

Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ANIMAS CITY, COLO., October 26, 1879.

(Via Alamosa, Colo., October 28.)

To ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kans. :

Interpreter White has just come in from Ignacio's camp. Was there last night. Talked with Allijandro, chief of the Winnemuchas, who arrived from Uncompahgre. This chief says the Meeker women were nearly in the agency. That the hostiles told him the soldiers first killed an old man, and they trapping beaver, which led to the attack. Ignacio told White he had separated with his own family of six lodges, and would remain at the agency. That the young bucks will not take advice, belonging to the Winnemucks, but will go on the war-path if the White River Utes fight. The young men of the Capotes are inclined to take the advice of the old men and remain. Charlie, of the Muaches, with ten lodges is, undoubtedly with the White River Utes.

HATCH, Colonel.

Received this morning.

VALDIS,

Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

Official.

W. D. WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF MISSOURI,

Chicago, October 30, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Indorsements.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., November 6, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCRARY,

Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

November 7, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. JOSEPH,

Acting Chief Clerk.

FORT OMAHA, NEBR.,

October 29, 1879.

To ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill. :

Merritt telegraphs from White River, under date of 27th, "Since the departure of Mr. Adams, the agent of the Interior Department, on 25th, everything has been quiet. A few Indians were seen on the hills some miles to the south of our camp on the afternoon of the 25th, but they seemed to be merely observing the camp, and disappeared in a little while. Captains Hamilton, Benham, and other officers on their way to join command are expected in this evening with supply train. Weather fine."

GEORGE CROOK,

Brigadier-General, Commanding.

Official.

W. D. WHIPPLE,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF MISSOURI,

Chicago, October 30, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Indorsements.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., November 6, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCRARY,

Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

November 7, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. JOSEPH,

Acting Chief Clerk.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 19, 1877.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit, herewith, copy of a report of United States Agent E. H. Danforth, of the White River Agency, Colorado, dated 28th ultimo, to Capt. Charles Parker, Ninth Cavalry, U. S. A., accompanied by a copy of a letter from the agent of the 2d instant to this office, in relation to the establishment of a military post on Bear River, north of the Ute Reservation, Colorado.

Frequent complaints have been made to this office within the past year, in consequence of raids alleged to have been made by these Indians upon the settlers adjacent to their reservation, and I concur with the agent in the opinion that a military post established at the point indicated would serve to restrain the Indians and keep them upon the reservation, and give to the settlers a greater feeling of security. I, therefore, respectfully recommend that the papers be referred to the War Department for its information, and such action as may be deemed advisable.

Very respectfully,

J. Q. SMITH,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLO.,
September 2, 1877.

SIR: I herewith inclose copy of my letter to Capt. Charles Parker, Ninth Cavalry, in answer to questions for information in regard to the business which will be explained in the inclosed letter.

I think that a military post situated in the Bear River Valley would be a good thing, if commanded by the proper officer; but that one at the agency or upon the reserve is not advisable for many *serious* reasons. I trust you will be of the same opinion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. H. DANFORTH,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. J. Q. SMITH,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, October 12, 1877.

SIR: Referring to your letter dated July 19 last (addressed to the President, and by him referred to this department for such action as may be deemed necessary in the premises), in relation to the defiant intrusion of unauthorized persons upon the northern portion of the White River Ute Reservation, in Colorado, I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of reports of the military authorities upon the matter, and beg to invite your attention to the remarks of Lieutenant-General Sheridan upon the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. McCRARY,
Secretary of War.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

October 16, 1877.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

Indorsements and accompaniments thereto, on letter from the Interior Department of July 17, 1877, with inclosures, in relation to defiant intrusion of unauthorized white persons upon the northern portion of the White River Ute Reservation, Colorado, July 19, 1877, referred by the President of the United States to the Secretary of War for such action as may be deemed necessary in the premises. Referred from War Department to the Adjutant-General for report from proper department commander.

Indorsements.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, July 21, 1877.

Respectfully referred—through headquarters Military Division of the Missouri—to the commanding general, Department of the Missouri, for report.

These papers to be returned.

By command of General Sherman.

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, Ill., July 26, 1877.

Respectfully transmitted to the commanding general, Department of the Missouri.

By command of Lieutenant-General Sheridan.

R. C. DRUM,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., August 7, 1877.

Respectfully referred to the commanding officer, district of New Mexico, who will take such action as the case may require and the interests of the service will allow.

These papers to be returned with the report in relation to this matter, and of the action taken.

By command of Brigadier-General Pope.

E. R. PLATT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO,
Santa Fé, N. Mex., September 17, 1877.

Respectfully returned to the assistant adjutant-general, Department of the Missouri, inviting attention to report of Capt. Charles Parker,

Ninth Cavalry, relating to the White River Indian Agency, and my indorsement on the same, from these headquarters, dated September 12, 1877.

EDWARD HATCH,
Colonel Ninth Cavalry, Commanding.

The following is the indorsement of Colonel Hatch referred to above:

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO,
Santa Fé, N. Mex., September 12, 1877.

Respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, Department of the Missouri. Should the general commanding decide to send the company from Fort Lyon, will he please designate the route by which he wishes the company.

EDWARD HATCH,
Colonel Ninth Cavalry, Commanding.

REPORT.

FORT GARLAND, COLO.,
September 6, 1877.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I proceeded August 18, 1877, in compliance with Special Order No. 47, current series, Fort Garland, Colo., and instructions contained in telegram from headquarters, District New Mexico, dated August 16, 1877, via Denver, Georgetown, Hot Sulphur Springs and Hayden to White River Agency, Colorado. I arrived on the 27th ultimo at the latter place, having delayed one day (Sunday) in Denver for the purpose of procuring the information contained in my telegram, marked A, herewith affixed. The toll road over the Berthoud Pass to Sulphur Springs, a distance of 48 miles, is a good but expensive one for wagons to travel. I am informed that it is practicable only between the months of June and November for each year. The road thence through Middle Pass over the Gore Range, through Egeria Park over the Oak Hills on to Bear or Yampah River, and thence south to White River, a distance of about 148 miles, is quite rough and circuitous, though practicable for six-mule wagons carrying 2,500 pounds, in good weather. I am informed by the best authority that the road from Windsor, Colo., situated at the junction of Elk Head Creek and Bear River (a place of two log houses), to Fort Steele, a distance of 125 miles, is a very good one, practicable for wagons carrying over 3,000 pounds, for eight months in the year. This is not a toll road.

The road by Rawlins Springs (nearly the same) is 15 miles nearer, but at the latter place there is very little room for storage.

The only other practicable road into this country is the one via Laramie, Hermes Peak, Steamboat Springs, Hayden, &c. This, I am satisfied, is a much longer route and equally as rough and circuitous as the one by Georgetown, Colo. No supplies have yet passed over this road to the agency, though it has recently been established as a weekly mail route, owing to the efforts of the miners at Hermes Peak, situated about 75 miles, by the road, from Hayden.

I believe the mail goes in a buck-board from Laramie twice a week to Hermes Peak, thence on horseback to Hayden weekly. At present there

is only a monthly horseback mail as far as the agency, which is 65 miles, by the road, from Hayden (a place of two log houses), which is about 10 miles east of Windsor.

The railroad from Denver to George, Colo., is an expensive one for freights, being a monopoly.

If wagon transportation is used exclusively from Fort Lyon to White River or its vicinity, I know the wagon road via Denver, Empire, and Sulphur Springs to be the best route of travel.

Should railroads also be used as a means of transportation between these points, I believe the route by rail to Fort Steele and thence by wagon road to agency would be the quickest and cheapest for transporting supplies.

Hay in sufficient quantities only can be procured as subsistence for animals in this country. I believe enough hay can be purchased on Bear and Snake Rivers to subsist 100 animals this coming winter.

The Indian Agent at White River Agency, as shown in his communication, marked B, herewith attached, does not want troops stationed at or near his agency, but thinks their presence is necessary in the vicinity of the Northern Utes' Reservation to protect both the Indians and the settlers living in Middle Park, Steamboat Springs, Hermes Peak and Bear and Snake Rivers.

I respectfully submit herewith copies of my telegrams, marked A and C, a communication from Agent Danforth, marked B,* and some remarks of my own, foreign to my instruction, marked D, relating, however, to this subject-matter, for the information of the district commander.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. PARKER,
Captain Ninth Cavalry.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
District of New Mexico, Santa Fé, N. Mex.
(Through post headquarters.)

A.

[By telegraph.]

DENVER COLO.,
August 19, 1877.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
District of New Mexico, Santa Fé:

Will proceed to White River to-morrow, via Georgetown, Sulphur Springs and Hayden. No public conveyance beyond Sulphur Springs. Road said to be good except in winter. Hay only can be procured in settlements near agency on Bear River. Supplies and mail at present sent via Rawlings Springs. Will return via that point if practicable. Governor Route authority.

CHAS. PARKER,
Captain Ninth Cavalry.

C.

GEORGETOWN, COLO., *September 4, 1877.*

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
District of New Mexico, Santa Fé:

Agent does not want troops at agency, but thinks sixty cavalry men are needed at Windsor on Bear River. Plenty of hay only in country

* B not copied in Adjutant-General's Office, having been furnished to the Interior Department by Agent Danforth.

for animals. Best route for wagons alone from Union or Lyon is via Denver and Sulphur Springs. Best and cheapest route by rail and wagons also is by Rawlins Springs, on Union Pacific Railroad.

Particularly by mail.

CHAS. PARKER,
Captain Ninth Cavalry.

D.

REMARKS.

Referring to the relations which at present exist between the Northern Utes and the settlers living in the vicinity of their reserve, also the necessity for troops and the best location for them, I have the honor to state as follows :

Few of these Indians have been in the habit of remaining upon their reservation as defined in the treaty of 1868. Few of them know anything about its boundaries, or care to observe them. In the winter, when without supplies (as on one occasion), they are forced to leave their reservation for stock, shelter, and subsistence. At the present time they are in a destitute condition, being without their annuities and their supplies for the present year. The agent, Mr. Danforth, has represented these facts to the Interior Department, stating also that the Indians will suffer and commit outrages in the adjacent settlements unless their supplies arrive before winter. No supplies can enter the country between November and April. Settlements within fifty miles of the reserve mentioned in the accompanying report occupy a great deal of their favorite hunting-ground, particularly Bear River. They desire it for summer herding and hunting, and consider all settlers upon it as trespassers.

The chiefs, Colorado, Jack, and Pioh, with their bands, rove about among the settlements and are frequently impudent and threatening to all those they dislike who refuse to give them what they ask for. These Indians have done nothing worse, so far, in the settlements than burn up the grass and timber, a few hay-stacks, and destroy the game, empty cabins in the time inhibited by law, and generally to intimidate all those settlers whom they dislike. There is no doubt but these acts retard the settlement of the country, and that the presence of troops in summer would materially facilitate it. The people are all anxious to have a military post established near them.

Mr. Iles, a settler living at Windsor, very rashly whipped an Indian boy recently for driving a herd of horses on his (Iles's) meadow. The Indians resented this act very much. Were he to repeat it he would probably lose his life.

The place which seemed to me best adapted for military occupation on the route traveled over, is situated at the lower extremity of Ege-ria Park, on the roaring fork of Bear River, at the base of two hills, one-quarter of a mile apart, both of which are crowned by high rock chimneys. Tributary creeks skirt the base of these hills and would afford an unlimited supply of clear, cold water from the White River mountains, very near. The valley from the upper hill is about three-quarters of a mile wide and four miles long to the end of the park. Within this area is included the finest and largest natural meadow to be found in all that country. Opposite these hills, near by, upon the main creek, is a cottonwood grove, and a little further on, two or three miles up ac

cessible hills, is a large forest of cottonwood and pine, out of which ample material can be found for the construction of a post.

The celebrated Black and Trapper's Lakes are within a day's journey. This is a favorite place for elk in winter. The waters are well provided with greyling, trout, &c. The red speckled trout is found near by, in Black-tailed Creek. This spot is fifteen miles from Hermes Peak, the same distance from Hayden by the present road (which can easily be made much shorter), fifty miles from Hot Sulphur Springs, and by General Hughes's old road, which there intersects the present road, it can not be more than fifty or sixty miles to White River Agency.

General Hughes, late Democratic candidate for governor of Colorado, passed over this old road with wagons several years ago. It also intersects the road from Hayden to agency, six miles south of Williamson's fork of Bear River.

The next best place is at Windsor, as recommended by Agent Danforth. Large cottonwood is there in abundance; pine, if required, would have to be floated down the river twenty miles. Plenty of beef cattle in that country.

Respectfully submitted.

CHAS. PARKER,
Captain Ninth Cavalry.

[Sixth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., September 25, 1877.

Respectfully returned. In compliance with instructions to make report upon this matter, I caused an officer to be sent to the reservation to make an examination of affairs. The report of this officer, together with papers accompanying it, are herewith inclosed, and attention is invited to them.

The agent, in his letter to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, enlarges upon the danger of encroachments upon the reservation by white settlers, and bases his recommendation for the presence of troops solely upon that ground. In his letter to Captain Parker (inclosure B to report of Captain Parker) he considers troops necessary to protect the settlers against the Indians. The Indians are undoubtedly very poorly fed upon the reservation, and are driven by hunger to leave it for the purpose of seeking food, and no doubt their presence among the settlements is a source of alarm (see copies of papers, marked X and Y), and there may be some encroachments upon the reservation on the part of white settlers, but neither of these reasons seem to me to be of sufficient importance to justify the incurring of the expense which the establishing and maintaining of a post in the vicinity would involve, and, even if the necessity were greater than it is, I have no troops that could possibly be spared for the purpose.

I beg, in this connection, to invite attention to the suggestions contained in the annual report of this department for this year, in which I have recommended that the several Ute agencies and reservations be consolidated into one, located in some convenient agricultural valley, &c. If so consolidated and placed, a reasonable military force could protect both Indians and whites; but until such an arrangement is made it does not seem possible to me to give the protection needed at so many points with any force it is or may be possible to furnish for that region.

JNO. POPE,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. A., Commanding.

[Inclosures to sixth indorsement.]

X.

[Office of W. N. Brown, treasurer and *ex-officio* tax collector of Grand County, Hot Sulphur Springs, Middle Park, Colorado.]

AUGUST 30, 1877.

DEAR GENERAL: You will recollect the writer, the undersigned, as having spoken to you last winter on the Kansas Pacific train going east, some time in January, about the annoyance given the citizens of Middle Park and depredations committed by the Ute Indians who have their headquarters on White River, Colorado, west of here. You will, perhaps, recollect having met the writer again in May at the Lindell Hotel, in Saint Louis, just as you were leaving (in fact, my family was given your room after you left). and you recollect, perhaps, my having again spoken to you about the matter. The Utes have several times this summer ordered citizens out of the park, and have burnt some cabins in the lower portion of the park—so it is currently reported—and have destroyed by fire vast quantities of fine pine lumber, besides having killed several thousand deer and elk and killed one white man, and all this within forty miles of Hot Sulphur Springs, Middle Park, Colorado; and off the Ute Reservation, as you remarked to me last winter, it does appear as if the “white man had no rights an Indian is bound to respect.” It may be proper here to state that the head instigator of all this mischief is old Colorow, or “Colorado,” as the Utes call him. He is a noted old renegade, and has given the people more trouble than any other chief. We are now getting up a petition, to be signed by our principal citizens, asking that you send a company of cavalry over here to keep the Utes on their reservation and afford protection to settlers at exposed points. You are perhaps aware, general, that a resolution was introduced in the legislature of Colorado by our representative, Mr. Stokes, last winter, asking that a military post be established in Grand County, in Middle Park, which resolution, I believe, passed both houses, and was sent to Congress in the shape of a memorial, &c. We earnestly hope, general, that you may feel justified in sending the much-needed protection, and at the earliest possible moment. At present the Utes are not in Middle Park, but are west on Bear River, but said when they left they would soon be back again as usual in the fall. The petition I refer to in this communication will perhaps be forwarded to you in a few days from this place. I see by late papers the President has prohibited the sale of arms and ammunition to Indians. I construe the order to apply to *all Indians*; and if it applies to *the Utes* as well as others, then it is one of the wisest and best things the government has done. It is so regarded here by our citizens, and I respectfully request, if consistent with your duties as commander of this department, that you promulgate the prohibitory order, and send me two or three copies of same, so I may post in conspicuous places here.

In this connection I may here state that I have had for three years, and now have, the only store in Hot Sulphur Springs; am assistant postmaster also, and will see that due notice is given, if notified by you, in these matters.

Capt. Charles Parker, of the Ninth Cavalry, Fort Garland, Colorado, recently passed through here on his way, on some official business, to the Ute Indian Agency on White River, in Western Colorado, with other citizens here. I laid the facts as recited in our petition before Captain Parker, and respectfully asked his co-operation with us in the

right course to obtain the desired protection, and hope for some recognition as to our great want in his forthcoming report.

I know the gravity of the situation here, and know also that if the Utes continue their menaces and depredations serious trouble will follow. Either we or the renegade Utes will be exterminated, and we all desire peace and the averting of bloodshed, with naught but the settlement and development and good of our country and our own safety in view.

General, we make this urgent, earnest request of you, hoping that it may be productive of peace, prosperity, and security of property, life, and limb to all.

With great respect, hoping soon to hear from you, I remain, general, yours, truly,

WM. N. BROWN.

Gen. JOHN POPE, U. S. A.,

Commanding Department, Leavenworth, Kans.

Y.

HOT SULPHUR SPRINGS, COLO.,
MIDDLE PARK, GRAND COUNTY,
August 30, 1877.

DEAR GENERAL: We, the undersigned, citizens of Middle Park, Grand County, Colorado, would respectfully represent to you that we are living on the frontier, on the confines of civilization, as it were, miles away from any military post, and without adequate protection from the roving and unprincipled bands of renegade Ute Indians which monthly visit this section without license or permit, contrary, we are informed, to the law's in this case made and provided by the government.

We would respectfully represent that these bands of renegade Ute Indians properly belong to the White River Indian Agency, in Western Colorado, but spend more than two-thirds of the year *off their reservation in our country*, purposely slaughtering our game indiscriminately and driving it into remote districts as far away as possible from the white settlements—slaughtering this game at all seasons on the white man's territory, when a white man is not allowed to kill a pound more than he can use to sustain life, while at the same time it is a notorious fact that game exists in abundance within the limits of the Ute Indian Reservation; and yet a white man cannot trap or hunt, or even cut a stick of wood, on the reservation without asking some petty chief's permission or running risk of being scalped and murdered.

We would respectfully call attention to the fact that these same Utes yearly set fire to the forests in this park, thereby causing immense destruction of the finest pine timber in the State, which is of incalculable value to all, and should be preserved; and these fires often burn up haystacks and cabins; and sometimes, in the owners' absence, the Indians burn the cabins in the more remote parts of the settlements hereabout. They repeatedly threaten to kill our settlers here if they do not *go out over the range and stay out of Middle Park*, and frighten tourists and others who peaceably visit this section for health and recreation, retarding, by their presence and menaces, the settlement and development of Northwestern Colorado.

In consequence of the inadequate protection at present afforded us, and in consideration of the foregoing facts herein set forth, we, the undersigned, citizens of Grand County, Colorado, respectfully request that,

f it is your pleasure and in your power, you station a company of cavalry at Hot Sulphur Springs, or some other suitable place in Middle Park, permanently, or so long as may be deemed necessary, believing that trouble will surely be averted thereby, affording protection to the citizens in this region, and keeping the Indians on their reservation; and your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

JOHN H. STOKES,
Representative from Grand County.

CALVIN KINNEY.

JAMES WAGSTAFF,
Postmaster at Hot Sulphur Springs.

J. G. SHAEFFER.

W. S. CHAMBERLIN,
County Clerk.

T. H. JOHNSON, *Sheriff.*

JOHN KINSEY, *Assessor.*

THOS. J. DRAU,
County Judge, late Captain Fifth Michigan Cavalry.

WILLIAM N. BROWN,
County Treasurer.

MONROE C. WYTHE,
Commissioner.

WILLIAM H. GARISON.

W. C. MEELEN,
County Commissioner.

C. LUKE KINNEY.

JAMES O. KINNEY.

F. M. BOURN.

H. BOOTH.

CHAS. F. BIXBY.

URBAN BLICKLEY.

M. BESSEY.

JOHN WESTEMORE.

JAMES R. MOSS.

WM. E. WALTON,
Steamboat Springs.

FRANK A. McQUEARY.

GEOG. E. HUDSON.

DAVID BOCK.

WILLIAM REDMAN.

DAVID PORTER.

DAVID GARDNER.

EDWARD C. HALTON.

C. W. ROGER.

WM. E. KINNEY.

C. A. KING.

THOS. WALLACE.

CHAS. S. WISE,
Bear River Route Country.

WALTER McQUEARY.

H. W. SHILLY.

W. O. BULL.

General JOHN POPE, U. S. A.,

Commanding Department Headquarters, Leavenworth, Kans.

[Seventh indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, Ill., September 29, 1877.

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

The condition of the Ute Indians, and their relations with the white settlers have been several times presented for consideration here.

However great the necessity may be for the establishment of a post near this reservation, the great difficulty in the way of doing so is to find troops to garrison it, for we have not the troops to send there.

The failure on the part of the Indian Bureau to furnish the Indians their annuities and supplies is probably the principal cause of the disturbances so frequently reported.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General Commanding.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, March 6, 1878.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt by department reference of a petition of citizens of Bear River, Routt County, Colorado, who allege that Ute Indians from the White River agency are committing depredations on the property of the settlers of that section of the State, that their limited supply of timber is fast disappearing by reason of these depredations, and they urgently request military protection, or the establishment of a military post on said river.

I also inclose copy of a petition of citizens of Carbon County, Wyoming Territory, upon the same subject.

On the 19th of September last the attention of the Department was called to this subject, and copies of reports of United States Agent Danforth and Captain Charles Parker, Ninth Cavalry, U. S. A., accompanied office letter of that date, with a recommendation that they be referred to the War Department for its information and such action as might be deemed advisable. Both of these officers from a personal investigation of the country were impressed with the importance of the establishment of a military post at the point designated, which they allege would serve as a protection to the settlers, and to keep the Indians upon their reservations. It is proper also to add in this connection that the office is in receipt of numerous letters in addition to the petitions referred to, complaining of depredations committed by Indians in Northern Colorado and the southern portion of Wyoming Territory, and there is no doubt of the necessity of military protection to the citizens of that section of the country.

It is therefore respectfully suggested that the petitions be referred to the War Department for its information and such action as the case demands.

Very respectfully,

C. W. HOLCOMB,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

MARCH 13, 1878.

Interior Department incloses copy of letter of 6th instant from the Indian Bureau, with copies of petitions of citizens of Routt and Carbon

Counties, Colorado, praying the establishment of a military post on Bear River for their protection.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, March 25, 1878.

Official copy; respectfully referred to Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan, commanding military division of the Missouri, for report.

By command of General Sherman.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, March 27, 1878.

Respectfully referred to the commanding general, Department of the Missouri, for remark.

By command of Lieutenant-General Sheridan.

M. V. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and A. D. C.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., March 30, 1878.

Respectfully returned.

I have already given my views fully as to the establishment of a post in the Ute country, and pending action upon them I have, as the Lieutenant-General is aware, made such disposition of the small force available for the purpose as will best tend to the preservation of peace in that section.

JNO. POPE,
Brerret Major-General, U. S. A., Commanding.

MARCH 5, 1878.

Interior Department incloses letter of 27th ultimo from the Indian Bureau, and accompanying papers, relative to the establishment of a military post on the Uncompahgre River, near the Southern Ute reservation.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C., March 13, 1878.

Respectfully sent to General P. H. Sheridan, commanding Military Division of the Missouri, for consideration and report.

W. T. SHERMAN,
General.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, March 16, 1878.

Respectfully referred to the commanding general, Department of the Missouri, for report.

By command of Lieutenant-General Sheridan.

R. C. DRUM,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., March 28, 1878.

Respectfully returned to the Assistant Adjutant-General, headquarters Military Division of the Missouri. My letter of February 21, 1878 seems to me to cover the whole subject.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General U. S. A., Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., April 2, 1878.

SIR: I have the honor to forward inclosed, as requested in your telegram of the 1st instant, copy of my letter of February 21, 1878, referred to in my indorsement of March 28 on letter from Interior Department.

The records of this office show that the letter was mailed, with inclosures, addressed to your office, on February 22, 1878.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. A., Commanding.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., February 21, 1878.

GENERAL: In reply to the indorsement of the General of the Army dated February 13, 1878, covering papers referred to the War Department by the Secretary of the Interior, I have the honor to return the papers referred to, with the following report and sketch:

The Utes are distributed at three agencies, widely separated and with very difficult communications with each other, or with any accessible points near the railroad. The location of these agencies is shown in maps forwarded from here on the 2d and on the 11th instant. The inclosed sketch shows with accuracy the immediate region to which the inclosed papers refer.

From Fort Garland to the Indian agency in question is a distance of two hundred and eight miles, part of which is over mountain ranges, very rough and difficult. A post at that agency would no doubt effect the specific purpose set forth in the letter of the Commissioner of In-

dian Affairs, but its usefulness would be restricted to that reservation alone.

The small military force available now, anywhere, makes it impracticable, with the forces assigned to this department, to establish more than one post in Southwestern Colorado; and to make the post effective the Ute reservations ought to be consolidated into one, to be located in some agricultural valley easily accessible from Garland. I believe that their consolidation ought to be made at once. In my annual report and since I have urged the action without assuming to indicate the location of the consolidated agency. I now recommend, as things seem to be approaching a crisis in that section, that the valley of the West Fork of the Chaune River be taken for the purpose.

The Chaune ~~flow~~ into the Rio Grande from the west, below the mouth of the Conjos River, and is shown on the map forwarded to division headquarters several weeks since, in connection with the reports of explorations by Lieutenants Ruffner and McCauley.

It has a large area of cultivable land, is well protected by mountain ranges, north and west, is a fine grazing region, well watered, and with much game. It is also a desirable place from the fact that few, if any, ranchmen have yet intruded upon it. To the west of it, over a gentle divide, is reached the valley of the Norejo, the choice of the Southern Utes of all the rivers and streams of the lower San Juan, a magnificent region, abounding in game.

In my opinion, the consolidation of all the Utes on one reservation, located in these valleys, is extremely desirable, and in the present or prospective condition of the military forces it is a necessity to the protection of both whites and Indians.

With the great emigration to Southwestern Colorado, the relations between the whites and the Indians at all three of the Ute Agencies are becoming more and more critical every day, whilst the agencies are so widely separated and so difficult of access from each other that it is wholly impracticable with the insufficient military force at our disposal to give anything like effective protection.

The papers referred here from Washington and the reports received direct all indicate the greatest uneasiness on all sides, both from whites and Indians, and papers setting forth the apprehensions of each side are received here from the same sources.

I have ordered the concentration of four companies of the Ninth Cavalry at Garland immediately to make an expedition into that region as soon as they can cross the mountains, and to visit each of the Ute Agencies and do what can be done to keep the peace by using to the full extent the very limited authority possessed by the army over Indian affairs.

No post can be established in that region for the present; first, because it has not been authorized and appropriated for by Congress; and, second, because no one post will fulfill the necessary conditions of protection whilst the Indian reservations are so widely separated.

The point recommended for the location of a consolidated Ute Agency is easily reached from the end of the railroad at Fort Garland, and will become more and more accessible as the road progresses. It is admirably fitted for a military post, which being established there, and the Ute Reservations consolidated at the same place, all further troubles between whites and Indians of a serious character would be practically at an end.

The great bulk of the emigration to Southwestern Colorado tends north of this proposed site, and the emigrants and settlers would be out of the way of intruding or being intruded upon.

In the meantime the companies of cavalry above referred to will be put in motion for the different agencies and disturbed sections with the last practicable delay.

It is proper to state, in this connection, that the company of the Ninth Cavalry stationed at Fort Garland, the only cavalry in that section of the country, is now *en route* to the late Jicarilla Reservation, in the lower San Juan, to settle, if possible, difficulties of the same kind there, and there is, therefore, no force immediately available for the Uncompahgre Agency.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. POPE,

Brevet Major-General United States Army, Commanding.

General E. D. TOWNSEND,

Adjutant General U. S. A.

(Through headquarters Military Division of the Missouri.)

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF MISSOURI,

Chicago, April 5, 1878.

Respectfully forwarded to the adjutant-general of the army. I fully concur with General Pope in the desirability of consolidating the Ute Indians, and in the valley described by him, which is very suitable for that purpose and for a military post. But after an experience of twenty-two years with Indians I have never known the removal and consolidation of Indians to be made, if they had any strength at all, without being preceded by hostilities, which resulted in their being put on reservations by the troops. The Indians are a primitive people, deeply attached to their homes, and it is more than probable that any attempt to consolidate the Utes, will result in trouble, unless we could muster sufficient troops to overawe them. We have not half the number of troops the service requires; therefore, I am afraid, to accomplish their removal and consolidation, we must accept war. There are on the three reservations now in Colorado 9,626 Utes; in New Mexico, 1,540; in Utah, 4,840; in Nevada, 2,000; in Wyoming, 4,000; total 22,006. I do not know if it is intended to put all these Indians on this reservation or not. Probably, it is only to put those in Colorado and New Mexico, 11,160 Indians.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General Commanding.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

December 23, 1878.

SIR: Fully half the Indians belonging to this agency have been absent at least two months. A part of these are hunting, the rest are off the reservation, and some have gone north of the railroad into the Sweet Water country hunting buffalo. I advised the commandant at Fort Steele of their coming, and requested that "Washington" be arrested, but I have no response. I sent to those on Snake River to return. Only a few have done so. The other portion are in Powell Valley. They come hither once a week for supplies, and immediately return.

Four families, and with them Douglas, are living near the agency. Those who are away are not likely to return till next summer. I think

all the Muaches are at Powell or out hunting. Until I can made proper improvements, and where the Indians can be comfortable, I do not see that things will be different,

Respectfully yours,

N. C. MEEKER,

Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
White River Agency, Colo., December 9, 1878.

SIR: I had yours of October 12, '78, C. Colorado, M. 1816, '78, and November 12, '78, C. Colorado, 1930, '78, refusing to suspend the law in regard to sale of ammunition to Indians in favor of some trader at this agency. I have to report the need for a store at this agency is great, but that no one will undertake to have one, for the reason that there are four stores on the northern border of the reservation which do sell ammunition, viz: Charles Perkins, on Snake River, 90 miles distant, with heavy stocks of goods; Mr. Lithgow, on Bear, 45 miles distant; Mr. Peck, on Bear, about the same distance, and Taylor & Perkins, on Mill Creek, 29 miles just over the line. As a consequence the Indians all go to those stores to sell buckskin and expend what money they can get hold of, so that with the trade of the few settlers, almost all stock men and not engaged in farming, these establishments are doing a thriving business. I have been told on pretty good authority, though I do not know it to be true, that some of these stores buy Indian blankets, &c. I heard of their buying suits of coats, pants, and vests for three. I am told, too, that the Indians sell flour and clothing to the settlers, but probably in no great amount. Sometimes, though not often, an Indian sells a horse, and then he has money. Thus it is that with abundant supplies at this agency about half the Indians are off their reservation, but I am satisfied they would not do so if we could have a store. This it seems we cannot have while these outside stores are permitted to sell ammunition, though the keepers know, for I have told them, they are violating the law. I wish some steps could be taken to suppress the sale of ammunition, so that we could have a store. I do not suppose I can exercise any authority outside the reservation. This condition of affairs leads to continued demoralization of the Indians, for, first, the traders tell them they ought to hunt and not work, and, second, the Indians interfere with the cattle of stock men by keeping their horses on their ranche, eating what they call their grass. One complaint from George Boggs, a heavy stock man, was so serious, including the stampeding of cattle, that I have sent Henry James, Indian interpreter, to order the Indians back to their reservation. But you must see that the traders will use their influence to keep the Indians on those rivers that they may have their trade, and there is but little prospect of their coming back, perhaps not till midsummer. The remainder of the Indians, mostly subject to Douglas, the chief, are in Powell Valley, or on their own mountains hunting. Still they are obliged to make journeys, which are always short, to those stores to trade.

This seems to be a vexatious question, because to suppress the sale of ammunition is to forbid the Indians from pursuing the only industry they can now engage in, and even this would be the case if those out-

side stores were shut up and a store open here not selling ammunition. This letter is to explain why so many Indians are off the reservation.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

NOTE. In another letter of even date herewith I wrote you concerning the issue of a large quantity of bar lead recently received.

N. C. M.

C, Colorado, E. 110, M. 156, M. 2,453.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, February 12, 1879 -

SIR: I am in receipt of your letters of December 9 and of the 6th and 13th ultimo, respectively, having reference to Indians of your agency who leave the reservation to supply themselves with ammunition and for other purposes, and, in reply to your recommendation that measures be taken to empower the agent to supply them with the same in limited quantities or appoint a trader to do it, have to state that it is not the policy of the office to encourage the Indians to engage in these hunting expeditions, but to use all legitimate means to induce them to abandon the hunt and engage in agricultural pursuits for a living. There is no evidence in your communications referred to that they are driven to the necessity of hunting for game to supply their wants, and stringent measures should be adopted to prevent them from going beyond the limits of the reservation for any purpose except as provided in the circular letter of December 23d, ultimo.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
*United States Agent, White River Agency,
Colorado, via Rawlins, Wyo.*

(Circular C.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
December 23, 1878.

SIR: Many complaints having from time to time reached this office of the absence from their reservation of various bands of Indians, it is deemed necessary that the instructions embraced in circular letter to superintendents and agents, issued under date of December 17, 1874, forbidding the exercise of such roaming propensities on the part of Indians, should be repeated, with certain modifications.

You are instructed to notify the Indians under your supervision that they must confine their movements wholly within the limits of their respective reservations; that under no pretext must they leave same-

without a special permit in writing from the agent, approved by this office, and no such permit will be granted except it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the agent and the office that the issuance of the same will injure to the benefit of the applicant or applicants, and will in no event be likely to prove disadvantageous to the Indian service.

The interchange of visits between different parties or bands of Indians residing on reservations widely separated from each other is very objectionable, especially in cases where the route of travel from one reserve to the other necessitates frequent contact with white settlements or mining districts.

Whenever it shall be deemed either necessary or judicious to grant to Indians a permit of the character above mentioned, an escort of police should accompany them.

You will endeavor by every means in your power to impress upon the minds of your Indians the urgent necessity existing for a strict compliance with these instructions, and warn them that, without this protection, they are liable to be looked upon and treated as hostile Indians, subject to arrest and punishment.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLO.,
December 23, 1878.

(Received from Hon. H. M. Teller, January 14, 1879.)

DEAR SIR: I arrived here last May to take charge of these White River Utes, as you may remember, and seeing how unsuitable is the location of the agency, by reason of its great elevation, and entire lack of land that can be tilled within several miles, I made application to have the location changed, which was granted, and a selection was made in Powell Valley, fifteen miles below. This valley comprises not less than 3,500 acres of excellent land, with cottonwood along the river, abundance of cedar on all the mountains, and about two months ago I discovered coal at the head of the valley, which, on further investigation, extends at least ten miles, in veins from six to ten feet thick, and often three to five of these veins above each other, all having a surface outcrop, and remarkably accessible. The stock-range on every hand is good, and I judge that it is sufficient for 10,000 head of cattle, which can live well the year round on the grass alone.

The valley was divided into four parts by streets running straight, one street through the length of the valley being seven miles long, and where the other street crosses the agency buildings are to be erected. As a preliminary, four or five log structures have been built for the use of the employes, for stabling and blacksmith shop, and a 40-acre field has been plowed on which wheat is to be sown next spring, while it is intended to plow at least one hundred acres more for the growing of corn, potatoes, pease, and vegetables next season. A grist-mill is to be built next year, and I think that in year after next, all the food required by these Indians will be grown here.

At first the Indians were decidedly opposed to the occupancy of Powell Valley for the agency, because they had always used it for their winter encampment, particularly for pasturing their horses, since snow seldom lies there more than a few days, while here it lies for five months, and they were perfectly willing to come up to this location once a week to

draw rations, when they would immediately return. Their only idea of an agency is that it shall be a place where they get supplies, since no crops had ever been grown here, and only a sprinkle of vegetables, watered from pails, and they had only a vague idea what it is to engage in farming; in short, they protested against any change. But that important work of furnishing a water supply was undertaken by having the irrigating ditch surveyed, for which Congress made an appropriation, and then everything stopped because the Indians were opposed to moving the agency, and some of them threatened, while they generally declared they would not live there, and not one of them would have anything to do with farming, because Indians were never made to work, but white men were. All they wanted was their regular supply of rations and annuity goods. In consequence, at least two months' most valuable time was lost.

Meanwhile, I could only study the situation, and try to come to a decided resolution. A great embarrassment arose from the necessity for getting the Indians to consent to the expenditure of the \$3,000, appropriated for building the irrigating ditch, and I wrote fully to the Commissioner that their objection was to the removal at all, not to the ditch, for even they knew, ignorant as they were, that if the removal was to be made, it was for the purpose of having farming land, and in this case, the water supply of the ditch would follow as a matter of course, and as much so as a well for getting drinking water.

Further, these Indians are divided into two parties, Douglas, the chief of all, and Jack, an aspirant to his place, so that if one side consents to any measure the other side is sure to oppose; therefore, to get the consent of the whole to any measure, particularly a government one, was entirely out of the question, and to propose a government measure is to press the government between them, so that to ask that they shall agree upon a policy or measure is just as absurd as to ask that the Democrats and Republicans shall in like manner agree, for government is run, when it runs at all, by the party in power, and cannot be blocked by the party out of power. Apparently, in response to such a statement of the case, the Commissioner sent me \$1,000 for the construction of the irrigating ditch.

By this I was encouraged, for I supposed, of course, the Commissioner waived the obtaining of the Indians' consent, since the agency was to be moved whether or no, and water must be had, and accordingly I told Douglas and other leaders that the Commissioner would get a "heap mad, by and by," and they had better not object to moving to Powell Valley. Then they surrendered and agreed we might move. Upon this, I made agreement with Mr. Lithgow, on Bear River, to execute the first 2,000 feet on the line of the ditch, through a cottonwood forest, and requiring the most resolute work to grub out the big trees and clean out a perfect jungle of willow thicket, and he came on with teams and went ahead.

About this time Curtis came to the agency, having been employed by the Ute commissioners at Los Pinos, and seeing the state of affairs, he proposed to employ a band of Indians to dig the remainder of the ditch. Of course I agreed to this at once, for it would follow that if they should work themselves, their "consent" to the expenditure of the \$3,000 was obtained, and as much so as when a man marries a woman, they consent. But we had no small job before us, for, when Douglas and his band proposed to work, Jack and his party opposed, and Douglas drew off; and so two or three weeks were spent. Jack's position was

** I would call your especial attention to another letter herewith on this subject.*

this, that Indians ought not to work, that it was the white man's business, and that they should dig the ditch. In this dilemma I sent for Jack's right-hand man, Somesick, and told him that this opposition to the rest of the Indians working must stop or I would write to the Commissioner and tell him about him. Upon this Somesick said they might go to work, and Jack coming around, he agreed also. Thereupon Douglas and his band went to work under Curtis, who is an old hand at digging ditches, the contract being this, that Curtis was to have 25 cents a yard and the Indians \$15 a month and double rations. Curtis made a machine by which there was a vast saving of labor, when the cut is only a foot or so, and he ate, and slept, and lived with the Indians, and worked early and late. Twenty-five Indians were at work fully a month, when freezing weather came and stopped all operations for this year, and they worked in a most faithful manner. They completed over 5,000 feet, most of the way about a foot deep, and the remainder from three to five feet deep, and I venture to say that the same number of average white men would not have done better. The Indians' work came to \$303, which was paid them in cash, and Curtis to about \$200, from which should be deducted \$20 or \$30 which he paid for dried fruit and other things in his own money. I think the Indians were fully paid and Curtis did not have too much; indeed, I feel as if I could have been willing to pay him \$100 out of my own little salary to secure such a great success. The ditch, so far finished, will water at least 1,000 acres, all we shall want in two years. The result of all this is that as many Indians want to go to farming next year, and to have farm implements and houses as I can possibly provide for; in fact, while working on the ditch all the tools that could be got together were in use, and more would have worked if I had tools. I am absolutely embarrassed by their needs, for they want wagons and plows, and harness, and corrals, and seed of all kinds, so that it seems to me there is no kind of question but what they will work, and be glad to, for they believe they will have something and be better off. It is true these workers belong to a party, and fortunately to the "administration," and they take pride in being conquerors, and particularly so because they are on the side of the government, but I have no doubt but the other side will, in a year or so, come over, and then some other subject will be found to quarrel about.

Fortunately, the work begun and laid out in the new location is in the right direction, and when things come together agreeably to the original plan, they will fit without confusion or loss, though minor things must be excepted always, so that we seem to have no obstacles except such as present themselves to daily work and duties, and are inherent in the nature of things. If the department will sustain me, as they seem willing to do, I think I shall get along well.

Naturally I cannot but imagine what would be the result if I should retire and Army rule should come in. I think of a West Point officer taking charge of these Indians. He has a good knowledge of mathematics and general accounts; he has read some history and many novels; he is a judge of good wine, or thinks he is, and he is honorable, honest, and what is called a perfect gentleman. But he has a few deficiencies; he knows nothing of farming, and, like all the rest of the Army, he has a profound conviction that this great interior is wholly unfitted for growing crops, for wherever he has been located in Montana, Idaho, Arizona, Colorado, or New Mexico, none of the officers or men have ever raised their vegetables. He says it cannot be done; he has no knowledge of the primary wants of families, as they progress from

one state to another—no idea of what is needed in the household to lessen women's labor, to command the obedience of children. He has not the remotest notion of the township or neighborhood organization by which schools, roads, and fences are established or regulated; and finally, he knows little or nothing of what constitutes a day's work at rural industry—how much a man should do, or how he should do it; nothing as to how much seed is sown to an acre of any kind of grain, nor when it is to be sown or reaped; nothing of hot-beds nor of small-fruit culture, and simply because such things are not in his line; nor does he pretend that they are. Possibly there may be some subordinate or private who understands such matters, or thinks or says he does; but if such is the case, he will not be likely to have enlisted, because, with such qualities as would enable him to direct the Indians, undoubtedly the most difficult job a man can undertake, he would find it far more profitable to work on his own account.

I think it is true that at every military post is a sutler's store, and that there liquor is sold. I think it is true that more than half of all soldiers drink when they can, and true because they have enlisted from a class that drink; so that the proposition to turn the Indians over to the Army amounts to this: That men who do not practice industry, or who have avoided it, are expected to make others love it; that intemperate, unchaste, and dissolute men are to inculcate temperance, chastity, and morality to those who are like themselves; that they are to learn others to make homes and to establish the domestic hearth, when they have none of their own, and to educate families in economy, cleanliness, household arts and household industries, while they have no families and no households; nor could they have had in the uncertainty as to their abiding places. In short, it seems required that the soldiers shall exercise all the qualities of experts in whatever relates to the civilized and social state, except in the solitary branch which they understand; as if, when one wants his watch repaired, he will go to a shoemaker, or his piano tuned, he will go to a lawyer. There is not a single factory nor business establishment in the land which can run for a single week unless with operatives who understand their work; and no business man who understands his own interest, but will instantly discharge an employé who gets drunk, because he knows that such a man is a damage to him every hour.

Another thing I think of when I consider this subject, which is, the Indians fear soldiers and are prejudiced against them more than one can be told, and I judge, so far as I can learn, that they are afraid their women will be led astray. Even if the soldiers were every way competent to civilize the Indians I think this prejudice will stand in the way for years, and if the plan so proposed shall be carried out I certainly expect outbreaks on the part of the Indians—even among these peaceable Utes—while I am certain there could be no progress in farming nor education.

Now, note, I am only speaking from my knowledge and experience, and labor and success with the White River Indians, and I say it would be a cruel and unwise thing to bring soldiers here and break up what seems so happily begun. Of the wild Indians of the Upper Missouri I have nothing to say, except that whenever a tribe of Indians anywhere cannot by some means or another be brought into subjection I think the taste of military rule for a few years would do them good, and I think all the Indian tribes had better be making up their minds pretty quick whether they are going to work or whether they propose to continue to be paupers. When I get round to it in a year or so, if I stay as long, I

shall propose to cut every Indian down to bare starvation point if he will not work. The "getting around to it" means to have plenty of tilled ground, plenty of work to do, and to have labor organized, so that whoever will shall be able to earn his bread.

Very truly, yours,

N. C. MEEKER.

Hon. H. M. TELLER, U. S. S.,
Washington, D. C.

P. S.—To answer more specifically as to what I want for the Utes, I have to say that the Commissioner granted \$3,000 last summer for quite a number of objects, and I am enabled to buy what I want, or if I ask for things not provided for I most always get them. I am about to order some two dozen one-horse plows and harness, since a great many Indians want to go to work. But there are a good many things they want or will just as soon as they get in houses, such as chairs, crockery, looking-glasses, and, in particular, stoves, of which we shall want a dozen next season, but I don't know as they can be had. Quite a number want wagons also. I have proposed to the Commissioner that I be authorized to take horses for wagons and stoves, and talked with the Indians about swapping for such things, but they don't like the idea very well. It seems to me it would be a good plan to fit up two or three Indian families, the most deserving, with such things in order that the rest may see how such things go. I have been ordered to establish a police force among the Indians but I don't see how I can when so few stay in one place, being here to-day and gone to-morrow, and I see no hope till I can get families into houses, and stay in them. I have a pretty poor opinion of log-houses because they never can be made to look anyhow and they are as cold as barns, freezing through and through, so there is not much to choose between them and the wick-i-ups. Besides, they are costly to build, the logs being crooked and heavy. I can build adobe houses full as cheap, and putting on a rough outside coat of lime mortar, by driving in six-penny nails to clinch and make perfectly neat houses, and which will be warm in winter and cool in summer, for I know how to do it. The Indians will make such brick, but they cannot chop nor do heavy work; it is out of the question. The most hopeful thing is that there are several families complaining bitterly of cold, and they want houses. I shall build one log-house right away for one who has three cows and two wives.

N. C. M.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 6, 1879.

SIR: It is reported to me that the relations between some of our Indians and certain white men on Snake River, at and around Perkins's store, are disgraceful, and so leading to great demoralization. For I am told that there are several Indian women who sleep at night with white men; that one of the Indian men is a procurer, getting what may be called a "commission" in this business; and that one of the Indian women is already in the family way. I sent a messenger sometime ago, to have the Indians return to their reservation, but they failed to do so, while others have gone north of the railroad hunting, though I requested the commandant at Fort Steele to arrest them; in short, though I have abundant supplies, fully half are off the reservation.

I know that as there is no store here, nor can be any so long as the sale of ammunition is forbidden here and allowed on Snake or Bear Rivers, the Indians, in apparent necessity, will go thither to trade; but, inasmuch as these storekeepers are subject to no kind of regulation, the inducements are increased to keep the Indians away from home, and thus are they made more and more unfitted to enter upon steps toward civilization.

What is to be done further on my part I do not know; but it seems to me that Mr. Wilcox, the United States marshal at Denver, would be the proper authority to regulate these stores, not only in regard to the selling of ammunition, but also in regard to purchasing of the Indians various kinds of annuity goods, of which I am told abundant proof can be found in the goods offered for sale and lying on the shelves.

Respectfully, yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 13, 1879.

SIR: I have received your circular December 23, 1878, in regard to the absence of Indians from their reservation, and I have to say that you must have under advisement several letters of mine, giving you full accounts of the reasons why these Indians are absent, the most particular reason being the absence of a store where the Indians can buy ammunition, since they get all they want off the reservation. The most satisfactory solution of this difficulty, as I have hitherto stated, would lie in making government issues of ammunition through the agent; and then there could be a trading-post here, and there would be no excuse for the Indians to leave home; and I am waiting a response to my letters above referred to.

Respectfully, yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 6, 1879.

SIR: In this monthly report, and it may be considered quarterly also, I have to say that the employés have been divided into three groups; two men having been steadily engaged in the pinery twenty miles above this agency, two men are detailed at the agency, to attend to the necessary work and business of weekly issue, and in addition is the teacher and physician, while six men are most of the time at Powell Valley, the new agency location. They occupy a good-sized, comfortable log-house they have built for cooking and sleeping quarters; and a blacksmith shop of logs, hauled from this place, has been erected and put into as comfortable and effective condition as possible. Another house has

also been removed, intended for my own use, but stormy and bad weather has prevented completion. The butchering of the cattle is now done in that valley, saving the Indians and employes a long weekly journey, and I know of no reason why butchering should not always be done there, though a corral will be required.

Once a week a team comes up to the agency, bringing a load of coal and taking back lumber or some articles needing to be moved. We are now burning coal, except in one fire-place, causing a great saving of time and labor in chopping wood, and adding greatly to the comfort of the house.

A house is in the process of erection in Powell Valley, for an Indian, named Johnson, who has two wives, and who is so civilized as to want many things. This house is located with a view to making an addition, and upon a street to be devoted to other Indian houses, each with proper allotments of land.

All the houses are located so as to be permanent, and with the intention to have shingle roofs, boarded sides, and plastered walls—that is, it has been the object all along, in doing any work of this or of any kind, to have it part of a complete whole, and to avoid expenditures for temporary purposes.

The teacher has now three pupils, two boys and one girl, who are cared for as much as if they were her own children; cooking, washing, mending, and the making of their clothes being all done for them. The girl in particular is clothed well; perhaps this seems so because she takes most care of herself, and the general style and cut of her garment is similar to that of a girl of a good family living in a city. A great change has taken place in these children; they are learning to read, write, and reckon with fair success, and their manners at the table are decidedly good, while they are rapidly learning English, though they speak it with diffidence, especially before their kin and strangers. On Christmas eve their stockings were hung up, and in them, next morning, were found the well-known assortment of gifts; and now, neatly dressed and well behaved, the contrast is marked from the day when they came without a shirt.

Little can be said in regard to the health of the Indians, because the great body of them, in fact all but four families, are either in Powell Valley or off their reservation on Bear and Snake Rivers, but I hear of no deaths. The number of cases treated has consequently been small.

The two employes engaged at the lumber camp will, by the close of this week, have cut about 400 pine logs, from 20 inches to 3 feet in diameter. This will make, when sawed, about 80,000 feet first-class lumber, and if we succeed in making a successful drive to Powell, next June, we shall have accomplished much. The location of this pinery is elevated; the snow is on the side hills, where they are chopping, knee-deep, and though snow falls almost every day the mercury has been but once 2° below zero. That is an almost unknown region, and it was a surprise to learn from those employes that, only a few miles beyond where they are working, they found vast forests of pine easily accessible. The mercury here, at the agency, is often 10° below zero; in Powell Valley, seldom below. The snow here is about one foot deep.

The cattle belonging to this agency are almost wholly on the ranges below, 300 being in Powell Valley, and they are all doing well. The beef killed is fat, and from 4 to 5 head a week are slaughtered. I wish to say here, in particular, that if, at any time, you should desire to make a special investment with the funds belonging to these Utes, that none can be sounder than to purchase a car-load of bulls and heifers, each of

good short-horn blood to keep up the grade, and to increase it, for at present, as is inevitable, it is degenerating—since the predominating blood is Texan.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 27, 1879.

SIR: I am informed that Washington, who is supposed to know who murdered McLane, is in Denver. You directed me to request the commandant at Fort Steele to arrest him, and I made the request, but he was not arrested, although I understand he crossed the railroad. Prass is with Washington, and he is known to have been present when Mr. Elliot was murdered in Middle Park last summer, and I believe Washington was with him. I presume that the small band of Denver Indians, of whose character I have several times advised you, are also in Denver, or soon will be, their chief means of support being the stealing of horses and the taking up of estrays. So little are they subject to any kind of authority, that when seen in the streets of that city with a stolen horse nobody will make an arrest. Mr. Carmichael, superintendent Denver Pacific, paid \$25 to them to get his own horse. The Stock Growers' Association of Colorado has appointed a committee on this matter. A notice appears in the Denver Democrat, from a settler in Middle Park, that if any of these Indians appear in the Park they will be shot on sight.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

MONTHLY REPORT.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
February 3, 1879.

SIR: The last month has been snowy, and much work was performed with difficulty. Only two male employés are at the agency; the rest, eight, are in Powell Valley. Something is done, when the weather permits, towards increasing dwelling accommodations. The principal work is directed to getting out fencing materials. The line of fence is to be over three miles long, and it will inclose about 400 acres; which, of course, is more than we can plow this year, but it was seen to be more economical to inclose this plat at once instead of adding to the fence hereafter. As we have only enough wire for one string, we shall put on one heavy pole, and another string of wire can be put on hereafter. The posts are of cedar, to be set 8 feet apart, and I think such a fence will protect the crops next season, as there are neither sheep nor hogs on the range.

The blacksmith shop, having been removed to Powell, is in good condition, and considerable repairing of Indian guns is done.

The snow-fall is unusually heavy this year, and the cattle are so widely scattered that quite a force of men is required to drive them in for butchering. The only feed above the snow is "rye grass," in bottoms and remote gulches. The number of steers fit to kill is rapidly diminishing, and I have cut down the number required to supply weekly rations about two head, and there is not much grumbling. There is no lack of other supplies.

Only four families are at the agency; all the rest are at "Powell." A great many are sick with epidemic colds, some severely, and one has died. There has been more sickness the last month than in six or nine months previous. The white people suffer some, but not much.

The teacher has three pupils who are under care night and day, everything being provided for them the same as if for her own children. They are orderly, obedient, and they make fair progress in learning, manners, &c. The example will undoubtedly result in such an increase of numbers as can be cared for when spring opens and a removal has been made below.

As previously reported quite a number of Indians expect to go to farming next season, and from the present outlook there will be more than can be provided with houses and implements, and especially with broken and inclosed ground. I have asked for many things needed to this end, and I expect a favorable response soon. Perhaps I shall do well if only liberal garden-patches be put in cultivation, with fair breadths of potatoes, by these Indians.

One Indian, named Johnson, has requested us to break a pair of his horses, as he wants to do teaming, and he wants harness and a wagon. The horses are under training, and I shall lend him wagon and harness.

I have a full supply of seeds of grain and vegetables, and such garden plants as require a long season will be started early, in order that after frosty nights are gone plants of a good size may be set in the open ground, and of such I intend there shall be as full supplies as the Indians may need. They would not be likely to make much progress in sowing small seeds, which when up require a practiced hand and eye. I think I can promise you that we shall raise a great abundance of all kinds of vegetables, which will diminish the demand for both groceries and meat.

The adverse party of Indians are still off the reservation, as I have previously reported. Douglas, the chief, and all his band are here, and in a teachable and good-humored state of mind.

Respectfully, yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

MONTHLY REPORT.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 3, 1879.

SIR: The first part of the last month was stormy and cold, and with deep snow covering the whole country. During the latter part warmer

weather prevailed; snow disappeared from most of the valleys, frost came out of the ground, and the roads settled; upon which our wheat was sown on ground plowed last fall, to the extent of our seed, viz, 21 acres, and well harrowed in; a snow of six inches falling immediately after will insure rapid germination. Meanwhile all the available force was engaged in digging post-holes, the previous part of the month having been devoted to cutting and hauling posts and poles. In this work of digging the services of five Indians have been secured, and I expect five more in addition hereafter. In connection, one of the Indian women boards them in an Indian boarding-house, she being also an employé, a condition necessary to establish, since with their ordinary irregular way of living they would not be able to do much work. Extra rations are furnished, and also dried fruit belonging to the school. Owing to difficulties and distractions presently to be narrated, I am obliged to limit the ground to be inclosed to 80 acres, and perhaps 20 or 40 more if the Indians will continue to work, but I think they will keep on, and so far they are faithful workers. They are for the most part young men, having few or no horses; the older and more wealthy disdain to work. Perhaps, after a time, they too will come to a different frame of mind. I am supported all the time by the head chief, Douglas, but his influence does not extend among the retainers of the chiefs who form the opposition faction.

The practice of these Indians in keeping and holding horses on an extensive scale is not only discouraging to farm industry, but is working most serious inconvenience, if not loss, to the cattle interest. I estimate that these bands of Utes must have 4,000 horses, and that at least 2,000 are in Powell Valley, the new agency location, or vicinity; for, although fully half the Indians are on Snake or Bear Rivers, they have many of their horses here, cared for by their friends. In addition, the Southern Utes coming to White River brought perhaps 300 horses. Now, during all winter, these horses have occupied Powell Valley, and the narrow valleys above and below, for at least eight miles—exclusively monopolizing the range that hitherto has been used by our cattle—since there is fair feed in the brush and timber along the river. When the snow began to disappear the horses would be taken out from the river, and they covered all the sunny slopes and gulches, and now, at this writing, they occupy all the range within half a day's ride, except where they have eaten it out.

As an inevitable consequence the cattle are forced back into the hills and mountains. Last fall I had several hundred head of cattle driven down to the valley, so as to be within reach of butchering, but, in less than a week, they were forced out to the north by the horses; and when we get cattle for butchering we go to a bunch among cedar hills, ten miles northeast, where there are no horses, as water is scarce, while the cattle eat snow.

The circumscription of the cattle range is thus made of such great extent, and much of it extremely difficult of access, by reason of mountains and snows, that it is with great difficulty we now find suitable cattle for butchering. Beside the uncommonly large area covered with snow this winter has caused the cattle to scatter badly, since they seek small open places here and there, so that by the horses occupying all the warm, favorable ground, the cattle are forced to seek their living where they can find it.

So far, only one or two dead ones are reported, drowned in crossing the river. Two employés and several Indians have been out over the ranges for three weeks, more on the extreme frontiers than nearer by,

and one party has gone a long distance down the river, toward Utah, and thence to cross northward, to bring in all scattered lots, and to see if cattle thieves are taking advantage of this condition of affairs.

The fact is, a conflict exists between the horses and cattle for the possession of the best part of the range. Similar conflicts have existed in all pastoral countries, from the days of Lot and Abraham, and one or the other must give way. For the increase of the horses is now not less than 500 a year; that of the cattle about the same; and it must be manifest to you, that it is utterly impossible for both to occupy the same range. Even if there were grass the cattle could not stay, because the Indians diligently herd their horses, and gather them together to water them at least twice each day, riding at full speed, which frightens the cattle, since, by similar performances, they are rounded up for butchering, and they seek other pastures far away. This condition has not hitherto existed, because the Indians have not wintered here for two years in like numbers; and then their horses were few in comparison. And now I have to say that, if the Indians are to be under no restraint nor regulations in regard to occupancy of range and increase of their horses, it will be impossible to hold the cattle on any of these ranges; in fact, I do not see how, in a year or so, beef can be furnished the Indians at all; because if we move to a remote range, the Indians would follow to get the beef, and, wherever they go, they take their horses.

The only practical plan is, to have a considerable region fenced, in which to hold cattle for butchering, while the main herd is kept at a distance. A suitable inclosure would cost about \$1,500. On the range two or three herders would be required, and perhaps more, because cattle are gradually filling up the whole country, immense herds being already on the north and west of us, and more coming in, even from so far a region as Oregon; and wherever there are many cattle there are thieves, who make it their business to run off and butcher small lots, as opportunity offers.

I have been talking to the Indians ever since I arrived, nearly a year, about their horses, telling them they must not keep so many, but it has no kind of effect. The Indian is wealthy, and he has standing precisely as he owns horses. When a wife dies from two to five horses will be shot and six to ten dogs, but none are ever or seldom sold, and the only real use to which they are put, aside from riding purposes, is to run races. Horse-racing, and consequently gambling, is the main pursuit for nine months in the year, and the Indian who has not a horse to run is nobody.

Late in January a Ute named Johnson, always friendly with the agent, always wanting to be civilized and to have things, requested us to break a pair of horses for him. wanted a wagon, wanted to farm, and he must have a team to work. Accordingly, the men spent a good deal of time in breaking the horses, he riding around and soon learning to drive, and of course we kept the horses on hay, so that they would be in a condition to work. Last week I discovered that he was in the habit of racing these horses in the afternoon, and it was evident that his object had been to get them in good heart so that he could beat his brethren of the turf, and I told him to take away his horses. However, I agreed he might have hay if he would haul it with his team from the old agency, but he refused. Thus the most serious pursuit of these Indians is horse-breeding and racing, and only these young men who have no horses will work. The conclusion is that this "horse business" is not only a powerful obstacle to progress, but is a great damage to the cattle inter-

est. It seems to me that they would rather give up the cattle than their horses.

The great bulk of the cattle are up Clear Creek Valley 10 to 12 miles, where rye grass is plentiful and standing above the snow, and where are sunny slopes; off toward the Grand many calves have come already.

The health of the Indians has improved since warmer weather came, and only two deaths have occurred during the month. The health of the employés has been unusually good.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 24, 1879.

SIR: Jack, the chief of the absentee Utes, numbering perhaps 75 lodges, came in from Bear River a few days ago, having been gone six months, and he proposed to me to go to farming a little less than half way between this and Powell, and have a town of their own in opposition to Douglas in Powell Valley. The location is pretty fair, and as the two factions cannot possibly live together, I agreed to it at once and offered every facility for their going to work. Whether they will do enough to raise a crop this year, as it is now late and fencing must be done, is doubtful, but Jack goes back to his camp to-day to talk with his retainers. For the present a ditch of quite limited capacity can be taken out, sufficient for, say 40 acres, enough for a start.

I think this measure will be carried out, and when it shall be all the disaffected will be consolidated under two industrial leaders, when the vexed problem of getting them all to work will be on the way to favorable solution.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

Monthly report.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 5, 1879.

SIR: The working force at this agency has been reduced during April by four men, who, as previously reported, have gone into business on their own account or returned to their farms. Three men are on their way hither to fill their vacancies. As a consequence, general spring work, and particularly preparing the ground for crops, has been delayed, and I find it impossible to perform all I had intended. A good deal of the work performed is in the nature of "improvements" available for years to come, such as the building or completion of an extent of two miles of fence and the construction of an irrigating lateral a mile and

a half long, from the main canal down to the new agency location, which is five feet wide on the bottom and as straight as a line can be run, showing how favorable the ground lies for irrigation. This lateral will water about 300 acres of land, as much as we can put in cultivation in a year or so, the area this year being 80 to 100 acres. Other kind of work, but mostly in the nature of improvements—that is, of getting ready—crowd almost every day, as of necessity they must, where everything was recently new, and all things needful were to be provided. The Indians have required a great deal of time, and work is constantly broken off to superintend or assist them, so that continued order was out of the question. At the same time from 10 to 15 Indians have been quite regularly at work, and they have been of great help in forwarding common undertakings; still they are uncertain, for generally about once in ten days something is the matter, all stop, but after a little they become reconciled and go to work; but these strikes are less and less frequent.

Several hours each day are devoted to dairy matters. Several of the Indian families early in the spring begged milk, which was refused, but they were told they could have cows of their own if they would milk. They said they would have cows, so cows were driven into the corral, with their calves, from the herd, and being wild, it was necessary to lariat them and haul them into a chute with a windlass, where, being tied to prevent kicking, they were milked—all of which requires courage, skill, and patience on the part of the employes detailed, and frequently they are badly bruised in the encounters with these fierce animals. The Indian women quickly learned to milk, and their men are also learning to break the cows. We have now seven Indian families which get milk this way, and several come as far as a mile and a half. But the Indians are having corrals built for themselves, and, as fortunately we cannot assist them much, they do their own work. On man on his motion cut poles and posts, and, being furnished with a wagon, he drew them, and then he did the rest of the work. There are now at least a dozen Indian families which want to be accommodated in like manner.

We are now about to plant the Indians' allotment of corn and vegetables, and a great embarrassment arises from the fact that the demand is greater than the supply of prepared land; hence I am forced to limit the areas of each, and lead them to hope for more next year. I surrendered to them 20 acres I had expected to plant to corn for the agency mules, since land broken this spring cannot be cultivated by Indians, owing to the roads and the great difficulty in getting water over it. Even in skillful hands the yield will be unsatisfactory.

A great obstacle is constantly presented in the idea the Indians have that white men can do anything, and at any time, for they have no idea of the amount of labor and time required to overcome natural obstacles on new land, and they grow impatient and wonder why more is not done. For instance, they want cabins; want to plant corn now; want me to "hurry up, hurry up;" everything must be done at once, to-day, and they see no prospect of the "good time coming" they have heard so much about. There is no help for this, because they have no experience as a base on which explanation can rest, and they only persevere because they have faith, and hope that something will come at last. I think it is a good help to get them tied to cows, and the next thing is to get them tied to personal allotments of land, cabins, and a lot of "trumpery."

The adverse party of Indians with Jack have come, and they propose to go to farming 10 miles from Powell Valley, but it is too late to do more than make a small commencement this year.

The river is now becoming impassable, and our butchering will be done, during high water, 12 miles from Powell, where all the operations herein mentioned are performed. The cattle are doing well. There are many calves, and the grass is good. The great crowd of Indian horses—perhaps 3,000—keeps the cattle on remote ranges.

The health of the Indians is good. Supplies are in abundance; but there is an entire lack of vegetables.

The school is in the same condition as previously reported—not satisfactory. This is now largely owing to deficiency in proper buildings and the residence of the Indians being in Powell, 18 miles away. It is hoped that during the present month the agent's family and the school will be moved, when organization can be effected.

Rations for the week are issued still at the old location; but no kind of industry is carried on here.

Respectfully, yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
April 28, 1879.

SIR: Yours of 12th instant, "C. Colo. C., 10, '79," inclosing affidavit in regard to loss of property of Mrs. N. J. Elliot by the Utes is received, and I note that you direct me to take "the action required by department rules upon this claim and report proceedings thereon as early as practicable." Now, in looking over what documents I possess, I find no directions, and nothing whatever like "department rules," and therefore I know not how to proceed. Please forward the same that I may proceed. That the Utes killed Mrs. Elliot's husband is well known. That they took away some horses they confessed in council here when some settlers' horses were recovered.

Respectfully, yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(C. Colorado, E. 10, '79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, April 12, 1879.

SIR: Inclosed is a claim of Mrs. N. J. Elliott, on account of a depredation alleged to have been committed by Ute Indians in the month of September, 1878, amounting to \$450.

You will take the action required by department rules upon this claim and report proceedings thereon as early as practicable.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

Mr. N. C. MEEKER,
*United States Indian Agent,
White River Agency, Colo., via Rawlins Station, W. T.*

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 17, 1879.

SIR: I am informed that some thirty White River Utes are about to start for the north, having heard of the fighting in the Upper Missouri country. Their object probably is to supply ammunition to the hostiles, and they get full supplies at the stores on the Snake and Bear Rivers. These belong to the adverse faction, *who will not work*, and, having no fixed homes nor interest, they can start off at any time. I have sent this information to the commandant at Fort Steele, and I have repeatedly reported to you of the sale of ammunition at these stores, and also reported the same to the commandant at Fort Steele.

NOTE.—Something like a dozen Indians are honestly at work in building and preparing land to plant, and I am doing all that possibly can be done to expedite such interests, which, on new land, does not show rapidly; but we are making good progress. By another year, I hope the fruits of industry will be such as to keep all the Indians on the reservation.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 12, 1879.

SIR: Having notified the various trading establishments, dealing with my Utes, agreeably to your order, in Circular No. 29, March 27, 1879, I have received a response from Charles Perkins, a copy of which I make herewith:

DIXON, WYO., May 6, 1879.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River, Colo.:

DEAR SIR: Yours of April 28, informing me of unlawfulness of Indian goods, received; will say that other parties beside myself have been trading with them; in fact, most every one that is in this country *have been trading for their supplies*, more or less. If you have the authority to stop me in buying their goods when they are off their reservation, I think it would be no more than right to inform all the other parties of such order, and have it also published in the leading newspapers. I have not been aware that an Indian agent had authority outside the reservation, but I take notice of your letter and will try and post myself accordingly. I do not want to break the law, but at the same time the order, such as you say, "should" be so enforced on all persons as well as myself.

Yours, respectfully,

CHAS. F. PERKINS.

This letter shows the condition of affairs at stores 25, Taylor, Leghler, and Peck, 65 and 110 (Perkins), miles distant; and I await your directions and orders. I think newspaper notice should be given in Carbon County News, Wyoming, and Denver Tribune and Central Register, Colorado.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

June 1, 1879.

SIR: The work of the past month has been devoted, first, to putting in crops, largely by the Indians for their own use, and of these Indians about fourteen have six acres of potatoes; on bottom land, they cleared off brush; and about as many have gardens within the upland field inclosure. A great many obstacles have been presented in the soddy nature of the ground, making the surface uneven, and requiring a great amount of labor, and besides the Indians were so ignorant, and yet so self-conceited, that I had great trouble in having seed properly planted, nor did I wholly succeed. However, they showed so much good will, and worked so faithfully, that there was much compensation. In addition I have planted about 15 acres in corn, for feed for the mules, but at the best it can be only "sod corn," yielding no more than half a crop. Considering the difficulties that always are presented on new land, I think I have done as well in farming operations as could possibly be expected.

Second. We have been moving, and we are moving some of the log-houses, to the new location, and I expect during this week to have the office there. All this work brings much inconvenience, but we shall soon be in possession to commence establishing needed arrangements.

The Indians are usually well. At present the greater part are off on their summer hunt, and but few beside these engaged in farming remain.

The school remains unchanged. During this month I expect to have the school building erected in Powell Valley; then undoubtedly there will be an increase of pupils. I feel that this is among the most important of all our endeavors, and I hope to lay the foundation for wide usefulness.

Our irrigating canal works admirably, and all the details are complete. It is but rare that a work of this kind, carrying so much water, is effected in all its parts the first season.

The grass on the range is now excellent and the herd of cattle is in a thriving condition.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

July 2, 1879.

SIR: I have received complaint from Governor Pitkin, Denver, to the effect that the Utes of this agency are in North Park warning the settlers to leave, and threatening death if they do not obey. I shall have Douglas send into North Park to recall those of his own band, at least, numbering about 40 lodges; the rest are under nobody's control except themselves. Jack, the other principal chief besides Douglas, is here farming; so is Douglas, but the great body are broken into small bands, subject to no authority. Some who have gone thither, and were well-disposed, asked me for authority to go, but I refused, and they finally went off. There are here this summer only from 30 to 40 lodges.

You are witness that I have repeatedly reported to you of the absence

of the Indians from their reservation, being generally on Snake and Bear Rivers; and I have, agreeably to your directions, often requested the military at Fort Steele, through the commandant, to clear those valleys, but no attention was paid, and no answers given. North Park is the best hunting ground in America, but it is too elevated for general farming. Recently gold discoveries have been made; a great many miners have gone in, and the Indians wish to occupy the ground. A collision is by no means improbable.

No sort of necessity exists for the Indians being away, only they prefer their wild life, and until restrained by military force, either of the Army or of the militia, things will go on as hitherto.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

DENVER, COLO., July 5, 1879.

To Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.:

Reports reach me daily that a band of White River Utes are off their reservation, destroying forests and game, near North and Middle Parks. They have already burned millions of dollars of timber, and are intimidating settlers and miners. Have written Indian Agent Meeker twice, but fear letters have not reached him. I respectfully request you to have telegraph order sent troops at nearest post to remove Indians to their reservation. If General Government does not act promptly, the State must. Immense forests are burning throughout Western Colorado, supposed to have been fired by Indians. I am satisfied that there is an organized effort on the PATH of Indians to destroy the timber of Colorado. The loss will be irreplaceable. These savages should be removed to the Indian Territory, where they can no longer destroy the finest forests in this State.

FRED. W. PITKIN,
Governor.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., July 7, 1879.

To MEEKER,
Agent, White River Colo., via Rawlins, Wyo.:

Governor of Colorado reports your Indians depredating near North and Middle Parks. If correct, take active steps to secure their return to reservation. The Secretary directs that, if necessary, you will call upon nearest military post for assistance. Report facts immediately.
Charge Indian Office.

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: Having received authentic information that my Indians are committing trespass on Snake and Bear Rivers, and in Middle Park, burning timber and wantonly destroying game, I have sent an employé, Harry Dresser, and Douglas, the chief, thither, to cause them to return to their reservation. A large band is in North Park, threatening ranchmen and miners, and I have requested the commandant at Fort Steele to cause these to return to the reservation.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

MONTHLY REPORT.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: During this month the office of this agency has been moved to the new location in Powell Valley, along with two log houses, and considerable portion of supplies and material. A large amount of flour, however, remains. A regular boarding-house relieves the employés from the necessity for cooking for themselves, and thus we are now being placed in a position by which work is more promptly and profitably performed.

The season has been uncommonly dry; we have had but one shower for three months, and besides the weather has been cold, and many nights, some even into June, frosty. As a consequence, the ten acres of potatoes have come up badly, and unless there is rain soon the crop will be exceedingly small. However, as the land is on first bottom, partly satisfactory returns are highly probable, while if on upland, even if irrigated, little or nothing would result, for this crop in this arid region depends for moisture on sub-irrigation and rainfall, since surface irrigation is always unfavorable for the reason that the ground hardens.

The 20 acres of wheat is promising, and we estimate 10 bushels to the acre, this on the basis of expected rain, which is liberal for a sod crop. The ground is rich enough for 40 bushels per acre, and even more.

Another consequence of the dry season is a low river, no rise beyond a few days having occurred, and therefore it was useless even to attempt to run the pine logs that were cut last winter. Still another consequence is an exceedingly short hay crop. But we shall diligently save all we can, and 15 acres of "rye grass," not usually cut on account of its early maturity, has been put in stack. We shall probably get nearly what we need. On Snake and Bear Rivers the settlers will have no hay, owing to the drought and the ravages of grasshoppers. Here this pest has, I judge, partly destroyed for us 10 acres of sod corn. I remark that probably corn cannot well be grown here, and that the climate is especially favorable for wheat, barley, potatoes, and hardy vegetables. We have 8 acres of pease, which look well, and as this crop is "grasshopper proof" it should be a favored one.

The Indians, to the number of eight or ten families, have gardens allotted in our common field, which have been planted to various vegeta-

bles and to sweet corn, and their prospects are fair. Great and vexatious labor is required in getting fair and proper tillage on the soddy ground, and I commend their patience and fidelity, but exceedingly regret that both the ground and the season should present to them so many obstacles. Another year will certainly give them mellow ground, and the season cannot be worse. They need, at first, a fortunate concurrence of natural conditions. Still if they are not dismayed by the present adversities, as they seem not to be, they are likely to be remarkably encouraged when they find these difficulties are not repeated.

This is said of the comparatively small portion of the tribe that remains on the reservation. The great bulk of the Indians, or at least half of them, went over to the valleys of Snake and Bear Rivers last fall and have not returned. They have greatly annoyed the settlers by letting their horses run on their meadows and uplands, and by burning their timber, especially valuable in this almost treeless region. About two months ago many of them who remained here during the winter went off hunting, and I have had reports of their trespasses in Middle Park and elsewhere, though I positively forbid their going. An employé, H. Dresser, accompanied by Douglas, the chief, has now gone to Middle Park to bring them back, and as they belong to Douglas's band they will probably come.

Another collection of several bands, acknowledging no chief, is in North Park, threatening the miners and ranchmen. Whether the commandant at Fort Steele will pay any attention to my request to drive them out of the park is doubtful, as hitherto he has paid no regard to my requests. Among these Indians in North Park are the worst ones of the whole tribe. Some are well known as horse-thieves, and they include the "Denver Indians," all bad lots, and it seems to me inevitable that conflicts with the whites will result sooner or later. A most unfavorable characteristic of these Indians off the reservation is the burning of timber and their wanton destruction of game, and simply to get the skins. Even the Indians who stay near the agency have no regard for timber, and during the last six months not less than 50 acres of choice timbered groves in this valley have been fired and as good as destroyed. My protests and endeavors have no effect, for even small boys, with a match, can set fire to dry brush and grass on the edge of timber, which, in a short time, is beyond human control. This lack of ordinary economy, this total disrespect for values in the natural resources and wealth of the country, are disheartening to contemplate.

During the removal hitherto only one pupil of the school remained. The house used for school building will be ready for occupancy in a few weeks, and then it will be seen what can be done to establish a school among people who do not and cannot think, who have but an imperfect idea of the value of money or in what wealth consists, who have neither literature nor history, and who are without ambition or a necessity to exercise it, because the government feeds and clothes them, and if it will not they can live nearly as well by hunting, or by foraging on white people's possessions.

Three or four deaths have occurred during the month among the Indians here; probably the whole number of deaths was double this, and I doubt if the births are as great by a half.

The Indians refuse to receive flour and other supplies by the new forms, as has been reported, but they receive beef. I do not know how long they will hold out, but they are certain to surrender in time, because it is their settled policy to take all they can get.

I have asked for two assistant herders, white men, and two additional

herding horses, for the reason that the herd is increasing, the range is forced out further and further by the Indian horses, the crowding of outside herds calls for additional vigilance, and there is a decided probability of the Indians undertaking to compensate themselves for diminished supplies under the new forms by butchering cattle on their own account, and to which I call your special attention.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(C. Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 17, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of an extract from the monthly report of United States Agent Meeker for the month of June last, relating to depredations committed by bands of Ute Indians in Middle Park and elsewhere, and the disregard by the commandant of Fort Steele of the agent's request for assistance in putting a stop to these raids. I respectfully recommend that the papers be referred to the War Department for its information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

(Civ., Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, August 20, 1879.

SIR: Referring to that portion of your monthly report for the month of June last in which you state that you have not had the co-operation of the military in putting a stop to raids and depredations of Indians in the Middle Park and elsewhere, I have to advise you that, on a reference of the matter to the War Department, the commandant at Fort Fred Steele was called upon for an explanation or report, and herewith a copy of the same, for your information, from which it will be seen that he denies that he has been derelict in his duties, and explains the cause of the delay in complying with the requests made by you for military aid, &c. His statements are fully corroborated by other evidence submitted with his report.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

(E. L. S.)

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
*United States Indian Agent, White River, Colorado,
Via Rawlins, Wyo.*

[Telegram, dated Denver, Colo., July 8, 1879.]

To E. J. BROOKS,

Acting Commissioner Indian Affairs :

Letter from Indian Agent Meeker, dated July 2, just received, asks me to appeal to military, and says commander at Fort Steele pays no attention to his repeated requests to keep Indians where they belong. He says Chief Douglas has sent scout to recall his band, but the other Indians belong to nobody. I have no information whether they have started home. The Utes have burned more timber the last few weeks than the white settlers have cut in twenty years.

FREDERICK W. PITKIN,

Governor.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

July 9, 1879.

F. W. PITKIN, *Denver, Colo. :*

The War Department has been requested to send troops, to bring the Utes back to their reservation.

E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

July 11, 1879.

SIR: Jack, a principal Ute chief, wishes to inform you that Rainbow (Sarap) died 8th instant, after long illness. Rainbow was a chief of such influence that formerly he visited Washington among the Ute delegation, and he received a silver medal from President Johnson, and his photograph is now in Washington. Of that delegation there remain Jack and Pant. Rainbow was a friend of the whites, and never engaged in war against them, and always loved peace and to shake hands. Lowick, another chief, and uncle of Rainbow, joins with Jack in this letter.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,

Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D C.

P. S.—Jack wishes to add that when Rainbow was buried he had all the honors of a chief and of a rich man, for interred with him were good clothes, shirt, blanket, &c., rifle, tied up together; and at the same time a good race-horse was killed, and two other good horses.—N. C. M.

(C., Colorado, M. 1509-79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, August 15, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter, dated 15th ultimo, relative to the departure of the Indians from the Middle Park, their destruction of

grass, timber, &c, and referring to my telegram to you of the 23d ultimo, directing you to take "a decided stand with your Indians, to prevent further depredations," have to state, in addition, that complaints of a serious character have been made to the office in regard to the fires which have been set by the Indians, as you have been advised by office letter of the 12th instant, and these heedless and lawless acts, unless checked, will lead to collisions between the whites and the Indians. You will, therefore, if possible, ascertain what Indians committed the depredations to which you refer, and have them arrested, and subjected to some adequate punishment. Examples must be made of some of them, in order to deter others from similar outrages.

In closing your letter, you state incidentally that after the Indians have received their yearly distribution of annuity goods, "they will depart and roam over a country as large as New England, where settlers are struggling to make new homes, and the Indians think it all right, because they are, as they boast, peaceable Indians."

In reply, you are directed to adopt, without delay, decisive measures to put a stop to these roaming habits of your Indians. Office instructions embraced in the circular of December 23, 1878, in regard to their being treated as hostile Indians, and liable to arrest if they are found outside of their reservation without passes, should be enforced, and you should also give them to understand that their annuities will be withheld from them if they do not comply with the requirements of the office.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
*United States Indian Agent, White River Agency,
Colorado, via Rawlins, Wyo.*

(E. L. S.)

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 15, 1879.

SIR: Your telegraph message of 7th instant was received on 11th, lying over two days at Rawlins, directing me to cause the depredating Utes to vacate Middle and North Parks. But I had reported to you previously, and had sent, about 5th instant, a trusty employé, taking along Douglas, who reached Hot Sulphur Springs, 150 miles, in four and a half days, and they returned yesterday, after an absence of ten days. The settlers all along the route were rejoiced at the effort made, and few or no charges were made for entertainment. The Utes immediately vacated Middle Park, and a runner was sent to Middle Park, and Harris Park, and I understand now that park also has been vacated, and that the greater part of the Indians are now on Bear River, near the trading stores, some of them begging food. Mr. Draper, the employé, told the women not to give them anything, as there were abundant supplies at the agency; but they did give, probably through fear.

So far as I can gather, several hundred antelopes were killed in Middle Park, for two Indians had each about 50 skins, and of course they could not use the meat. They also killed three bison, which may be called a mountain buffalo. A few years ago there were some two dozen of these animals in the park, and the settlers have all refrained from shooting them, as they held them both as a curiosity and an at-

traction, but the Indians have killed them off so that now there are less than half a dozen. At the time Mr. Drener arrived the settlers were getting ready to attack the Indians and drive them out; thus bloodshed has been avoided. Mr. Drener reports that fires followed the Indians on their return, about 100 miles, and within 30 miles of this agency.

In many parts of the Bear River Valley, and all the way up to its head in Egeria Park, the country is well burned over. At Hayden, where resides the families of Smarts and Thompson, the fires were so near the houses that the women, whose husbands were away, were on the watch two days, and carried their household goods to a place of safety. The grass range on which their cows and cattle fed is destroyed. I have previously reported to you that the Indians are destroying timber everywhere; last winter something like 100 acres of beautiful cottonwood groves were burned, close to the agency. Their object is to get dry wood next winter. At the present time, the timber on the mountains, north and south, is burning; and our valley is filled with smoke. These fires are built to drive the deer to one place, that they may be easily killed, and thereby the destruction of pine, cedar, and aspen, is immense, while the fire runs in the grass; even the range which we largely depend upon for winter grazing for the cattle is badly burned over, and unless the long drought of two months and more is soon broken by rain, this grass cannot be restored.

As you may easily suppose, this practice of the Utes enrages the settlers, and unless it is stopped, bloody vengeance is sure to be taken. I am doing all I can to stop these fires, but the Indians attach no value to timber, and do not hesitate to set any forests on fire to get at a little game. The habit has been long established, and they cannot conceive why timber is more useful than water or rocks.

They are now gradually drawing toward the agency, so as to be on hand at the yearly distribution of annuity goods; after that they will depart, and roam over a country as large as New England, where settlers are struggling to make new homes, and the Indians think it all right, because they are, as they boast, "peaceable Indians."

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 11, 1879.

SIR: I think a statement as to our crop prospects will be acceptable. We are now cutting the 20 acres of wheat, the quality is good and the yield will be about 150, possibly 200 bushels. In addition, Indians have several pieces, say 3 acres. We have 4 acres of fair corn, the rest was destroyed by young grasshoppers, and by reason largely of the ground being new and rough, and 8 acres fine peas. The Indians have 2 acres, in five separate patches, of sweet corn, melons, turnips, beets, &c., which they have had irrigated. We have 8 acres of potatoes, which will be about half a crop, being cut short by the dry season. A good part of these belong to Indians. The school has a first-rate garden. I might say it is mine, for I made it myself; there are 1,200 nice cabbages, plenty tomatoes now ripening, beets, onions, turnips, pie-plant, &c. Considering that all our planting was on sod, that we are in a location en-

tirely new, with buildings to provide and fences to build, I think we make something of a show.

I think the Indians will do much better next year, though their number is small, and I am sure that as they have never worked before they are entitled to some praise.

Twenty acres of sod have been broken within the last twenty days, and when the sulky breakers arrive both will be set to running.

The hay crop is exceedingly short, but we have put in stack some 35 tons, and expect to cut 20 more. Indian horses have done immense damage to our meadows, and I see no way to save them but to fence them. On Bear and Snake Rivers is no hay nor cultivation.

My impression is that this valley and the climate are decidedly fitted for growing all kinds of vegetables and grains, and on account of the absence of cold winds. I have now coming on some 200 little peach trees. I have also some apple and plum trees, and blackberry and gooseberry plants. It is true that the elevation is about 6,000 feet, requiring that tender vegetables be started under glass, but this is no particular hardship. The most doubtful crop is corn. I need another season for its trial.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 11, 1879.

SIR: In a letter of this date, "A," are several things connected with the subject of this letter.

These Ute Indians are not to be trusted, and I have hitherto informed you that, instead of forming them into a police, I have been obliged to keep up a police of white men to watch them; for the greater part of them are almost constantly off the reservation trading, running, and stealing horses, and intimately associated with the ruffians, renegades, and cattle-thieves of the frontier, and now I am pretty well convinced that certain cattlemen, (see "A") intend to operate with the Indians next winter to run off little bunches of our cattle to the railroad. I have a strong belief that a raid is to be made on our herd through the connivance of the Indians, and what I want is sufficient military force to be sent hither to awe these savages, so that they will stay at home. When this shall be done, the Indians will be in a condition to improve, but now it is simply impossible; indeed I fear they are already so demoralized that years upon years will be required to make anything out of them. A few, say twenty or thirty, I have under my control, and I have great hopes of them, but the rest, fully 700, will not stay here. It is useless for anybody to tell me to keep them at home while there is no obstacles to their going away, and even while they are welcomed by white men who teach them all kinds of iniquities.

I had a conversation the other day on the cars with Major Thornburgh, commandant at Fort Steele. He said he had always sent my requests forward, and that he had received no orders, and he added that if *you should request the Secretary of War* to command him to keep the Utes on their reservation he could start a company of fifty cavalry at a day's notice, but without orders he could not go ten miles from the fort.

Another trouble lies in the stores on Snake and Bear rivers, and even nearer by, which sell ammunition and take buckskin blankets, and clothing in exchange for goods; playing-cards being in large supply. Let me ask you what is the use of my warning these traders, when they know I have no power to back me? It is only a farce. I once wrote to the governor of this State about the violation of the law, and he told me if I would apply to the deputy U. S. marshal for the district, he would move. I did not apply to him, because said deputy kept an Indian store himself.

The things to be done are these: Have the military break up the selling of ammunition (and liquors) and the buying of annuity goods at these stores. Then, as the Indians could not hunt, they would work to get money, perhaps trap some, and a store would be established here. Of course the military must keep them on their reservation and white men off. When these things shall be done, the Indians will begin to consider the question of sending their children to school, and they will open farms. Now they will not. Already they are making their plans for going north after they get their annuity goods, to hunt buffalo.

If anything can be done, I would like to have a hand in it.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 11, 1879.

SIR: I send this day requisition for funds for the present quarter. The pay for herder should be increased to \$720 a year with the rest employes, for the reason that our present herder is one of the best men I have, and to make this discrimination will naturally lead to his resignation, or at least to a transfer to some other place on the list, when the wages of the one substituted must be reduced. The truth is, that the way we are obliged to manage the cattle business demands the services of the greater part of the force at least one day in the week; and once in three months every single man from two to three weeks, on the occasion of counting and of branding, &c., calves. So that herding is a common pursuit among all the employes. This, of necessity, must be the case, since there is now nearly 1,800 head of cattle, the value of which exceeds that of all other property here, I should judge—that is, about \$25,000; in fact, it will sell for at least this sum any day. It is thus seen that the objective point of all our efforts is upon the agency herd, and therefore it seems to me that to reduce the wages of the man having this business in charge is to do him great injustice.


I shall now extend this letter to considerable length, mainly upon collateral matters, and which are of great importance to your department, and to the government; but all is connected with the well-being of this herd, I might say with its preservation.

First, now, the season has been so dry that a great number of cattle men are traveling all through this whole mountain country in search of winter range, for the ranges east of the mountains, holding a million and a half of cattle, are almost bare, and it is too late for rains to restore them unless coming within ten days.

The winter range on this reservation is fair, though greatly impaired

by Indian fires and the great number of Indian horses, and it is looked upon with longing by all the cattle men. Honest men will not encroach, but the dishonest ones will not hesitate.

I now inform you that the Morgan Brothers, having about 1,500 cattle, have built a corral on what I believe to be the reservation, but at any rate it is so near that their cattle are sure to range on our ground, and to mix with our cattle. The location they have selected is to the northeast, and not exceeding 25 miles from this agency. I saw two of the brothers on my way in, and they told me they had just finished their corral; and when I told them they were over the line, they said they guessed not, and they continued to dispute the point. With their cattle among ours we shall require a large additional force.

These Morgans have the worst kind of reputation among cattle men, and they are freely charged with stealing cattle and burning our brands. Besides, they have five different brands, and one brand is a box, , which, burned over our brand I D, gives them the cattle, thus, ID, of which I have hitherto advised you. Further, I learn that they associate much with the Indians, one being a good interpreter, and, in particular, they trade and race horses with them. They dress in buckskin, highly ornamented pants, vests, and shirts; they are strong, fearless, and unscrupulous, and yet they seem in their youth to have had the best advantages.

Now, our late fall and winter range—and there is none other in this part of the reservation—is adjoining the line, and but a few miles from the Morgans. There is one mountain park of several thousand acres in that section, where I want to put our cattle till snow falls, and the two additional herders I have asked for, and which you have granted, I shall put in charge, and there these men must stay night and day, with a tent for shelter and sage-brush for fuel. I have sent over the range for these men, and told them their wages would be \$600 per year, and their board, \$3.50 per week. This is not a bit more than they would get at home, and have a house to live in, and I am afraid that when they come, and find that regular employes get \$720 a year, they will, if honest men, think themselves imposed on; if dishonest, be tempted to make up the deficiency by affiliating with neighbors, at our expense. I should say that you cannot afford to make the wages of herders less than of others, and particularly for the reason that to be of any service they must be “good and true men.” The case is different from that at any other agency, because we are regularly in the cattle business of the country, and among the “Cattle kings”; its profits are exceedingly great, and it is poor management, let me say, to discriminate against the employes who must be the custodians of what is almost as easily transferred as bank-notes.

I could say much more, but the above should be sufficient to inform you of the situation; and I shall consider that this letter is the performance of a duty that I owe to my place.

And yet there is another matter connected with this same, viz, the necessity for military protection, and I invite your attention to it in another letter of this date, marked B.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(Civ., Colorado. M-1693-79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September, 20, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter dated the 11th ultimo, and to that portion of the same which relates to the "Morgans" and other persons who have established ranches near the reservation, and who give indications of making preparations to herd their cattle on the reservation, I have to direct that you at once adopt active and stringent measures in regard to all herders who make any attempt to violate the provisions of section 2117, United States Revised Statutes. In every instance, when any of their cattle are found upon the reservation, ascertain the number of cattle in each herd, the names of the owners, and positive evidence of their violation of the act referred to, and make immediate report thereof to this office of all the facts in each case, the names and residences of the witnesses, and all other parties connected therewith, in order that steps may be taken to prosecute such herders.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
*Acting Commissioner.*N. C. MEEKER,
*U. S. Indian Agent, White River Agency,
Colorado, via Rawlins, Wyo. T.*

MONTHLY REPORT.UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY,
August 31, 1879.

SIR: The employes have been almost wholly engaged during the past month in harvesting wheat, haying, and plowing for next year's crop. The season has been so dry that less than the usual amount of hay has been cut, but it is all saved in good order, and the amount may be about 70 tons. It is quite short, but the quality is good. Twenty acres of sod wheat are estimated from 150 to 200 bushels. The quality is unexcelled. Forty acres of exceedingly tough sod have been broken, and the season is so early that the sod will be likely to be so rotted by the time we sow wheat that a full crop, say of at least 20 bushels per acre, may be expected. Our garden now furnishes abundant vegetables for the season.

A part of 30 lodges of Indians have been under my control, and about ten have been growing crops. Owing to the unfavorable season and the stubbornness of the soddy soil, the results are not as encouraging as I had wished; but a fair and hopeful commencement has been made.

In the dairy business the Indians take considerable interest. They have built by their own labor quite a number of corrals, and each family milks from one cow to three cows; and they bring up the calves, some going quite a distance with a wagon to cut fresh grass for these calves. If I could provide horses for such families they would progress much more rapidly. Three wagons have been provided for the Indians, and they use them almost every day to good purpose. They break their own horses, and have learned to harness and drive so as to be quite re-

spectable teamsters. They are hauling considerable flour—indeed all that is issued from the old agency.

The great body of the Indians are now just returning from their long ramble of seven or eight months. Some of these have already asked permission to go hunting into the Sweetwater country, and being refused, they are in a bad humor. Unless prevented by force, I think they are sure to go off, and probably take almost all of their tribe, as there is great attraction, with considerable profit, in buffalo-hunting. The white settlers outside the reservation, particularly in Middle Park, have been loud in their protests and complaints against these Indians for their killing game and firing grass and timber.

I shall now make an attempt to establish a police force among the Indians, although at the same time I am obliged to have a police of employés to guard against certain Indians and unprincipled white men combining to run off cattle. My impression is, that Indians are not to be depended upon as against their own people.

Last week the sheriff of Grand County came to this agency with warrants for the arrest of Chinaman and Bennett, two Indians, charged by Major Thompson with burning his house on Bear River. I attempted to get Chief Douglas to assist, so that these culprits might be found; but he refused, saying he knew nothing about them, and he would do nothing; and yet he has been extremely friendly. He sends his boy to school, and he has worked all summer. The Indians were not found, and the sheriff and posse of four returned.

Little progress is made in getting children for the school, though there is no regular school-building. Considerable number have died, and the general health of the Indians has not been good. Supplies of all kinds are abundant, and some of the Indians have a supply of vegetables of their own raising. The herd of agency cattle is in prime condition as regards flesh. If we should have a hard winter, with deep snow, they will be likely to suffer; for the Indians have burnt off a good part of what we depended upon for winter grazing, while their large herds of horses will attempt to occupy what remains; but I shall keep two herders with them all the time, on the best grazing that can be found.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
September 8, 1879.

SIR: We had recently finished plowing an 80-acre field, all inclosed; then we irrigated a piece of adjoining land, and upon which the agency buildings stand, at a corner. This parcel lies between the river and the street coming to the agency, and embraces probably 200 acres, and the plan was to devote 50 acres next the street and agency to tilled crops, and the remainder to grass-land, and to inclose the whole with one common fence. First, it is necessary to have fields contiguous, that fences may be watched and depredators kept in check, and also to make the work of irrigation as inexpensive as possible, since to carry water far involves heavy outlays, besides being attended with the greatest difficulties by reason of uneven ground. In short, the described parcel as every way fitted for the object stated, and the new location of the

agency was made with a view of utilizing and improving this particular land.

When we commenced plowing last week, three or four Indians objected. They had set their tents down toward the river, and two corrals had been built, though I had previously told them the ground would be plowed. I offered to move their corrals by employes' labor, and showed them other places, of which there are many equally good, but they refused to consider. This land is good, and being close to the agency their horses are protected; in short, they simply needed the ground for their horses. Now, since it was evident that if I could have moved the agency buildings two or three miles below they would come and claim equal squatters' rights there also, and I told them so; to which they replied that I had land enough plowed, and they wanted all the rest for their horses. Still, they did indicate that I might plow a piece farther away, covered with sage and grease-wood, intersected by slues and badly developing alkali, while at the best it would take three months to clear the surface.

They would listen to nothing I could say, and, seeing no help for it, since if they could drive me from one place they would quickly drive me from another, I ordered the plows to run as I had proposed. The first bed had been laid out and watered 100 feet wide and half a mile long, and when the plowman got to the upper end, two Indians came out with guns and ordered him not to plow any more. This was reported to me, and I directed the plowing to proceed. When the plowman had made a few runs around the bed, he was fired upon from a small cluster of sage-brush, and the ball passed close to his person.

Of course I ordered the plowing to stop. I went to Douglas, the chief, but he only repeated that they who claimed the land wanted it, and that I ought to plow somewhere else. Then I sent a messenger to Jack, a rival chieftain, ten miles up the river, who has a larger following than Douglas, and he and his friends came down speedily, and the whole subject was discussed at great length. The conclusion was, that Jack and his men did not care anything about it, but I might go on and plow that bed (100 feet wide and half a mile long). I said that was of no use; that I wanted to plow 50 acres at least, and I wanted the rest for hay, as we had to go from four to seven miles to do our haying, and even then the Indian horses eat much of the grass. Then they said I might go on and plow as I proposed.

This was either not understood or not assented to by the claimants, for when the plow started next morning they came out and threatened vengeance if any more than that bed was plowed. Immediately I sent again for Jack and his men, and the plow ran most of the forenoon, when I ordered it stopped, for by this time the employes were becoming scared.

Another long council was held, and I understood scarcely anything that was said, though I was present for hours, smothered with heat and smoke; and finally it was agreed that I might have the whole land and plow half of it, and inclose the rest, providing I would remove the corral, dig a well, help build a log-house, and give a stove; to which I assented, for, substantially, the same had been promised before.

Altogether there were not more than four Indian men engaged in this outbreak; properly there was only one family, the wife of which speaks good English, having been brought up in a white family. The remainder were relatives, and beside were several sympathizers, but by no means active.

During all this time I had a team in readiness to go to the railroad to

ask instructions from you, by telegraph, but the necessity of this seems, for the present, averted.

My impression is decided that it was the wish of all the Indians that plowing might be stopped, and that no more plowing at all shall be done, but that the conclusion which they reached was based upon the danger they ran in opposing the Government of the United States.

Plowing will proceed, but whether unmolested I cannot say. This is a bad lot of Indians. They have had free rations so long, and have been flattered and petted so much, that they think themselves lords of all.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COL.,
September 10, 1879.

To E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner, Washington, D. C. :

I have been assaulted by a leading chief, Johnson, forced out of my own house, and injured badly ; but was rescued by employes. It is now revealed that Johnson originated all the trouble stated in letter September 8. His son shot at the plowman, and the opposition to plowing is wide. Plowing stops. Life of self, family, and employes not safe ; want protection immediately ; have asked Governor Pitkin to confer with General Pope.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington D. C., September 15, 1879.

To MEEKER, *White River Agency, via Rawlins, Wyo. :*

War Department has been requested to send troops for your protection. On their arrival cause arrest of leaders in late disturbance, and have them held until further notice from this office. Report full particulars soon as possible.

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

(C., Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 15, 1879.

SIR : I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a telegram, dated 13th instant, from United States Agent N. C. Meeker, of the White River Agency, Colorado, who states that he has been assaulted by a leading

Indian chief, Johnson, forced from his home, and badly injured, but was rescued by his employés, and that they are in danger of losing their lives, and requests protection.

I respectfully recommend that the matter be referred to the honorable Secretary of War, with the request that he cause the necessary orders to issue to the commandant of the nearest military post to the agency to detail a sufficient number of troops to arrest such Indian chiefs as are insubordinate, and enforce obedience to the requirements of the agent, and afford him such protection as the exigency of the case requires; also that the ringleaders be held as prisoners until an investigation can be had.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

(Civ., Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 20, 1879.

SIR: Referring to office telegram of 15th instant, relative to the request made to the War Department to furnish troops for your protection, &c., I have to inform you that, in accordance with said request, the honorable Secretary of War has, by telegram, instructed the commandant of the nearest military post to the agency to render you such protection and assistance as the exigency of the occasion requires.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
*United States Indian Agent, White River Agency,
Colorado, via Rawlins Station, Wyo.*

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., September 13, 1879.

To MEEKER,
Agent, White River Agency, Colorado, via Rawlins, Wyo.:

War Department will be requested to direct commanding officer nearest post to send troops for your protection immediately.

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
September 17, 1879.

SIR: Your message of 13th instant received to-day. There is no particular change either for worse or better. No plowing is done, nor will till it can be done in safety. It remains to be seen whether the business

and industries of this agency are to be conducted under the direction of the Indians or of yourself.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

CHEYENNE, WYO.,
September 19, 1879.

TO COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

Please telegraph me at Denver where I shall consult with Governor Pitkin about the Ute difficulty, and also the Indian trouble in New Mexico.

C. SCHURZ.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., September 20, 1879.

To Hon. C. SCHURZ,
Denver, Colo.:

Commissioner Hayt is at the Palmer House, Chicago. All the official information we have is that White River agent was driven from agency building about 13th instant by Indians and seriously injured, but was rescued by employés on 15th. War Department ordered troops from Fort Steele to agency. Opinion is that Utes were driven to hostility largely by influx of miners. Only information from New Mexico is that Victoria is off the reservation and military are in pursuit.

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

DENVER, COLO.,
September 21, 1879.

TO COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

Two Ute Indians, Jennet and Chinaman, have been identified as having burned down citizens' houses outside of reservation. Warrants are out against them. Agent Meeker should be instructed to have them arrested and turned over to civil authorities. Efforts should also be made to identify Indians having set fires to forests outside of reservation—for consultation with governor and others. I am advised that settlement of Utes in severalty will be possible, at or near location now occupied by them, if properly managed; steps to that end should be initiated as fast as possible.

C. SCHURZ.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 23, 1879.

To Agent MEEKER,

White River Agency, Colorado, via Rawlins, Wyo.:

Secretary telegraphs from Denver that two Ute Indians, Bennett and Chapman, have been identified as having burned down citizens' houses outside of reservation. Warrants are out against them. Agent Meeker should be instructed to arrest and turn them over to civil authorities; also to identify and arrest Indians having set fire to forests. You will act on Secretary's suggestion calling on military for assistance if necessary.

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
September 22, 1879.

To E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner, Washington, D. C.:

Governor Pitkin writes cavalry on the way. Dispatch of 15th will be obeyed.

N. C. MEEKER,
Agent.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
September 24, 1879.

SIR: Our stock of all kinds of paper bags is nearly exhausted, and although the greater part of the goods for which I made due requisition are now on wagons between this and the railroad, or have arrived, no invoice of paper bags has been received. It is, therefore, of the greatest importance that the needed supply be forwarded.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
September 26, 1879.

To E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner, Washington, D. C.:

Would say to yours 23d September, if soldiers arrest Indians and go away, I must go with them. Soldiers must stay. Large bodies of Indians leaving for the north to hunt. They insisted I should give out blankets now. I refused. Trade in guns and ammunition on Bear and Snake Rivers brisk. Company D, Ninth Cavalry, at Steamboat Springs, waiting instructions which came to-day from General Hatch, and are forwarded to day by employé.

N. C. MEEKER, *Agent.*

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
September 29, 1879.

To E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner, Washington, D. C. :

Major Thornburgh, Fourth Infantry, leaves his command 50 miles distant and comes to-day with five men. Indians propose to fight if troops advance. A talk will be had to-morrow. Captain Dodge, Ninth Cavalry, is at Steamboat Springs, with orders to break up Indian stores and keep Indians on reservation. Sales of ammunition and guns brisk for ten days past. Store nearest sent back 16,000 rounds and 13 guns. When Captain Dodge commences to enforce law, no living here without troops. Have sent for him to confer.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., October 1, 1879.

To POLLOCK, *Inspector, Alamosa, Colo. :*

Secretary has sent dispatch to-day to General Adams at Del Norte, Take the dispatch with you to Los Pinos Agency, where Adams is ready.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

OCTOBER 1, 1879.

To Hon. C. SCHURZ,
Muscogee, Ind. T. :

Dispatches received to-day from Agent Meeker convey information of an expected outbreak by his Indians. A later dispatch from Rawlins reports that Major Thornburgh's command was attacked by the Indians on Mill Creek, 13 miles north of the agency, and that the major and 13 soldiers were killed, and fears are experienced that Agent Meeker and his employes are massacred. These reports may be exaggerated, but I fear a serious outbreak. Will confer with Secretary McCrary.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO.,
October 25, 1879.

To COMMISSIONER INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

Latest.—Your telegram of 18th instant this moment received. Brought stenographer from Denver; have investigated agency affairs re. Stanley is not a proper man for agent, but do not think it advisable to change at this time, as matters are quiet here and Adams is

authorized to act. I will to-morrow proceed to southern agency, in compliance with your telegram of 14th. Letter on agency affairs.

POLLOCK,
Inspector.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., October 18, 1879.

To Inspector POLLOCK,
Alamosa, Colo. :

(He will arrive from Denver to-day. Operator must find him.) Secretary thinks you had better confine yourself, as first instructed, to agency matters, and not act on my dispatch of yesterday. General Adams has instructions from the Secretary of a similar character. You will not need a stenographer. Perhaps Ralph Meeker can write down for you. Secretary made acquaintance of General Adams while in Colorado, and communicated with him before it was known that you would be reached. You will, of course, assist him if he needs your aid or counsel.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

DENVER, COLO.; *October 17, 1879.*

To COMMISSIONER INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

The governor and leading citizens here unanimously affirm the Indians must be removed from the State or exterminated by State if not by Federal force. Confidence, they say, can never be restored, and it is only a question whether the result shall be attained at once or by slow and tedious warfare. Will reach Alamosa to-morrow, in company with young Meeker. The importance of this question suggests carefully taken and comprehensive data. Had I not better take a stenographer with me?

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO.,
October 23, 1879.

To COMMISSIONER INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

Courier just arrived bearing message from General Adams dated 21st. Says that just after leaving Adams he was overtaken by an Indian who informed him the soldiers were cutting roads and advancing on that portion of White River Indians camped on Grand River; that another fight had commenced; that Indians desire peace, but would contest the advance of soldiers. Ouray, who is advised of every movement, says propositions have been made by the Uintah and Shoshones to aid in

preventing advance of soldiers. Other advice will doubtless be received before morning, and if fighting continues Ouray and myself will start to the front to-morrow, and try to prevent further bloodshed.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO.,
October 25, 1879.

TO COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

The captives, Mrs. and Miss Meeker, Mrs. Price, and two childaen, arrived last night in charge of Major Shennon, agency clerk, and Mr. Cline. Sleep at Ouray's house, and go east to day. They are in good health considering the hardships endured. Have taken their statements in detail. No books or papers were saved. They brought away only the clothes they wore; their private funds, amounting to thirty dollars, were taken. Adams expected here to-morrow. Nervousness apparent here yet; peace prevails; saltpeter could not save this country but for the counsel of Ouray.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

(Civ., Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 29, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of two letters from United States Agent H. F. Page, of the Southern Ute Agency, dated 15th and 19th instant, respectively, relative to the condition and attitude of the Utes of that agency, and copy of a telegram, dated 23d instant, from United States Inspector W. J. Pollock, relative to difficulties with White River Utes and the course pursued by Chief Ouray and himself.

I respectfully recommend a reference of these papers to the War Department for its information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

(Civ., Colorado, p. 1085-79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 28, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a telegram, dated 24th instant, from United States Indian Inspector W. J. Pollock, giving an account of an interview had by him with the Ute chief Ouray rel-

ative to the cause of the hostilities on the part of the White River Utes, and the measures to be adopted to prevent further difficulties, and respectfully recommend that the same be transmitted to the War Department for its information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., October 13, 1879.

To W. J. POLLOCK, *Winnebago Agency, via Sioux City, Iowa :*

Proceed immediately to Los Pinos Agency. Lose no time. Instructions will be telegraphed to you at Del Norte, Colo. Acknowledge receipt of this and telegraph when you will start. Will telegraph to railroad to furnish you pass.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., October 21, 1879.

To Hon. COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

Arrived 2 p. m. Everything quiet at present. Had talk with Ouray and with two couriers just from hostile camp, 15 miles this side of Grand River, about half way between here and White River Agency. Mrs. and Miss Meeker, Mrs. Price, and her two children, are prisoners in Johnson's camp. Courier met Adams last night, one day's march from hostile camp. Ouray believes prisoners will be delivered to Adams. At Thornburgh massacre 23 Indians killed and 2 wounded. After Thornburgh fight, Indians, knowing of Merritt's approach, made preparations for great battle, and on latter's arrival were on the eve of attacking, when they received orders from Chief Ouray to cease fighting and retire, which they did. Will await here return of Adams, when Indians expect great council, results of which cannot be foreseen.

POLLOCK, *Insp.*

[Telegram, via Alamosa, Colo., October 21, dated Southern Ute Agency, 6 a. m., October 16, 1879. Received at Department Interior October 21, 2.45.]

To HAYT, *Indian Commissioner, Washington, D. C. :*

Have held Southern Utes. Have full control of them. I go at once with Ignacio, Ogula, Canache, Narragui, chief of renegade Utes, and ten other principal Indians, to meet General Hatch, with assurances of peace. Particulars mailed.

PAGE, *Agent.*

[Via Alamosa, Colo., 26, dated Southern Ute Agency, October 19, 1879. Received at Department Interior October 27, 12.40.]

To HAYT, *Indian Commissioner, Washington, D. C.:*

Arrived at agency last night with Indians from Fort Lewis. Indians conducting well.

PAGE, *Agent.*

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY,
October 19, 1879.

SIR: I arrived at agency last night with Indians from council with General Hatch at Fort Lewis, of which I sent you telegram.

To-morrow will commence the issue of annuity goods.

Think some of the young bucks have stolen away and gone to join the White Rivers; will know positively to-morrow and next day.

My regular reports are unavoidably delayed, my whole time being spent in efforts to keep the Indians under control.

I still expect to keep the Southern Utes on the reserve and out of the fight.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Indian Commissioner.

[Telegram, dated Fort Lewis, Colo., October 18, 1879. Received at Department of the Interior October 21, 2.20 p. m.]

To HAYT, *Indian Commissioner, Washington, D. C.:*

Arrived at Fort Lewis yesterday, with 20 Utes. Chiefs and headmen held council with General Hatch. They assured him they desired to remain at peace. I return to agency at once with them.

PAGE, *Agent.*

[Telegram.]

BUNKER HILL, COLO.,
October 19, 1879.

To COMMISSIONER INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.:

Passed Del Norte just before daylight this morning; expect to reach agency to-morrow.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

[Telegram, received in Washington October 21, 1879.]

LOS PINOS, COLO.,
October 18, 1879.

CARL SCHURZ,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:

Arrived last night at Ouray's camp, and now make preparations to go to the camp of Douglass, between Grand and Gunnison Rivers, with

escort of Indians, to secure the captive women and children, who, I have assurances, are safe and will be delivered. Troops should not proceed south from White River meanwhile, as I believe that your conditions to secure peace will be complied with. None of the Southern and only a part of the White River Utes have been engaged in the trouble, and all rumors of the depredations off the reservation are untrue, except the driving off of horses from Bear River, and this before Ouray's order to cease fighting was received. Ouray has perfect control of his own people, and the White River Utes are in constant communication with him. All desire peace. I expect to return here in six days with the women and children.

CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 15, 1879.

SIR: I start to-morrow morning, the 16th, for Fort Lewis, 50 miles east, on horseback, accompanied by Chief Ignacio, Iagula, chief of Muaches, Narraguinsup, chief of Rennagaches, and ten other chiefs and headmen, to meet General Hatch, U. S. A., commanding district, for the purpose of allowing the Indians an opportunity to give him assurances of their good behavior.

I expect to be absent from the agency four days.

All is quiet and orderly here. The Indians are under perfect control. The danger of an attack seems to have passed. I have not called for military assistance for the agency.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

[Telegram.]

OCTOBER 13, 1879.

To STANLEY, *Los Pinos, via Del Norte, Colo. :*

Have ordered Inspector Pollock to your agency, to confer with Ouray and other chiefs in the interests of peace. He will probably reach you within a week.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLO., *October 24, 1879.*

To COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

Since telegram yesterday have had long confidential talk with Ouray. He says no white man had been killed, nor had Indians malicious intentions, until after approach of military upon their country; that before

Thornburgh engagement one of his nephews and another peaceable Indian were killed by soldiers; that if military are withdrawn there will be no more bloodshed; that White River Indians are in close communication with Utah Utes, Eastern Shoshones, Northern Arapahoes, and others, who have heretofore agreed to share their fate, and are now ready to aid in opposing advance of troops. He expresses fears of general Indian war unless military are withdrawn, and for his own safety should it become known he communicated plans of Indians.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., October 26, 1879.

To POLLOCK, *Inspector, Los Pinos, via Del Norte, Colo.:*

The fight you refer to is reported by Adams as accidental encounter between Indians and hunting party. Adams reports hopeful. He will return to Los Pinos by 30th. Troops do not advance. Keep me well advised.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
LOS PINOS INDIAN AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 15, 1879.

SIR: There has been no fighting since Sunday, the 5th, when Ouray's order reached the Indians, through the hands of employé J. W. Brady and his escort of Indians. Neither have there been any depredations committed, that we can learn of, by any Indian here or elsewhere.

None of the Southern Utes, none of the Uncompahgre or my Utes, and only a part of the White River Utes, led by Captain Jack, took part in the fight at White River, as I learn it from the Utes here, and I believe what they say. If we should take the statements of what newspapers here say (find a few more samples inclosed), and especially the Denver Tribune, one would suppose that every Ute on the reservation was on the war-path, and half of the people in Colorado murdered and their property destroyed by fire and stolen by the Utes. In justice to Sapavenaro, the third chief in command of all of the Utes, I wish to say that *he is a gentleman* compared to his traducers, and was not in the White River fight, as published, but was here in this vicinity at the time of the fight and headed the Brady escort to that place in the interest of peace and humanity, and that all the Indians came away from the battle-field with him when he returned to this place, and is yet a gentleman and an advocate of peace and good feeling and friendship between the white man and the Utes. If the American people were all as honest and conscientious as Sapavenaro there would be no trouble with the Indians anywhere, and we, indeed, could be truthfully called a Christian people.

Everything is quiet here; even the whites are getting ashamed of themselves and becoming rational, and, therefore, no danger threatens in the near future. If the soldiers are withdrawn and a man placed in

charge who has sufficient discrimination to know how to deal with the White River Utes as a band of children, which they are, there need be no trouble with them, at least no serious trouble.

I am not speaking in a reflective nor a suggestive sense, but simply aim to give the Indian character and disposition as I have learned them by studying my Utes since here.

I hope and trust the Indian Department at Washington will use every influence to see that the Utes have a fair hearing in this matter, that the world may know who is to blame, the Utes or the cormorants surrounding them. I am absolutely disgusted at the conduct of the white people, and am not at all surprised that the Indians do occasionally turn upon the traducers and robbers of their rights. The worm will squirm when tread upon and the noble horse defend himself when goaded to desperation, and why not an Indian, one of God's people, who is covered by the same Divine mantle of charity that enrobes the whites, and who are as devout worshippers in their simple way at the seat of justice and mercy as the white man, with none of the white man's hypocrisy and studied cant.

Respectfully,

W. M. STANLEY,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

———
UINTAH VALLEY AGENCY, UTAH,
October 19, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor and pleasure to inform the department that nearly all of our Indians are on the reservation and exceedingly well disposed. I have perfect confidence that I can keep them, as they have expressed the utmost confidence in me. They have been very much excited and frightened, but are now calm. I told them I would stay here and protect them and their property. They have been pleased to say many kind things to me and praise what they call my bravery.

Of course we have all been very anxious and at times excited. I have not, however, at any time felt afraid. Had I manifested fear, I could have scared all my Indians into the mountains. They are about equally afraid of soldiers and bad Indians. Some time after the first news from White River, I sent two of my Indians to learn the situation either from Indians or soldiers. They saw the agent's daughter and also Douglass. The former sent the inclosed note, which will explain itself. Douglass sent assurances that he would not come to Uintah, saying Tabby was his friend, and Critchlow was a good man and took care of Tabby and his Indians. I believe that if Douglass could have had his way there would have been no fighting, nor would the agent have been killed. My Indians lead me to believe that he wanted to stop fighting, and would give up the white women and children, but the other chiefs would not permit it.

Feeling very anxious to do all I could to rescue those women, I sent one of my employes with another man, who volunteered to go, and two Indians, with a letter to any officer they might meet, and also a letter to Chief Douglass, with whom I am well acquainted, desiring him and appealing to him by every motive I could use, to have the women spared and sent back, telling him that I knew he was too brave to hurt or to allow others to hurt women and children, and that I would do all I could

to help him out of his trouble. I have some hope, if they see him, that my appeal will not be entirely in vain, if Douglass can control, which I very much doubt. I received department telegram of the 9th, via Salt Lake, by the last mail. I have learned through my Indians that four or five of ours have joined the White River Utes. My Indians keep me informed as to the whereabouts of all and assure me they will tell all, and truly I have confidence in them, and it is barely possible that small bands may raid in this direction, but, as I told the Indians, I will "hold the fort." Governor Emory sent me word that, if I desired, he would send me 50 improved guns and ammunition for them. I would like, as I told him, to have 20, and Ashley people, who are "forting up," would take the balance of the 50. It would give a little more confidence to the timid if we had them. They may be needed. We trust in God. He uses means and so should we.

In haste, but very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. J. CRITCHLOW,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

OCTOBER 9, 1879.

CRITCHLOW, *Agent,*
Uintah Agency, via Salt Lake City:

Are all your Indians on your reservation? Is there any indication of sympathy with hostilities.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

OCTOBER 24, 1879.

CRITCHLOW,
Uintah Agency, via Salt Lake City:

Send me information as to the state of your Indians. Keep me fully advised.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

LOS PINOS INDIAN AGENCY,
October 2, 1879.

To the officers in command and the soldiers at the White River Agency:

GENTLEMEN: At the request of the chief of the Utes at this agency I send by Jos. W. Brady, an employé, the inclosed order from Chief Ouray to the Utes at the White River Agency.

The head chiefs deplore the trouble existing at White River, and are anxious that no further fighting or bloodshed should take place, and have commanded the Utes there to stop. I hope that you will second

their efforts so far as you can, consistent with your duties, under existing commands. This much for humanity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. STANLEY,
United States Indian Agent.

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 2, 1879.

Mr. HENRY PAGE,
Indian Agent, Southern Ute Agency :

SIR: Ouray requests that I should say to you, and you to the whites and Indians that they need not fear any danger from the trouble at White River. That he wants his people, the Utes, to stay at home, and lend no hand or encouragement to the White River Utes; that the troubles there will all be over in a few days; that he has sent Sapenaro and others to White River to stop the trouble, and that outside interference will only tend to aggravate and will do no good.

Very respectfully,

W. M. STANLEY,
United States Indian Agent.

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 2, 1879.

To the chiefs, captains, headmen, and Utes at the White River Agency :

You are hereby requested and commanded to cease hostilities against the whites, injuring no innocent persons or any other farther than to protect your own lives and property from unlawful and unauthorized combinations of horse-thieves and desperadoes, as anything farther will ultimately end in disaster to all parties.

OURAY,
Head Chief Ute Nation.

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 2, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose for your information a copy of the order from Chief Ouray to the White River Utes wired to you to-day; also a copy of the letter to the commanding officer of the troops at that point, with a copy of the order inclosed.

The letter was sent at the request of Ouray by Joseph W. Brady, an employé at this agency, accompanied by an escort of chiefs and Utes to the number of 15. Ouray's order was sent by a special runner.

I also inclose a copy of a letter to the Southern Ute Agency, dispatched in like manner.

I am informed that the mail-carrier at White River was killed, and took the liberty of sending you the dispatch, as I believed you would get the news quicker than any other way.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. STANLEY,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 26, 1879.

TO COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

Ouray says five lodges of the Muache band of Utes, who had been living on the Dry Cimarron, started about thirty days ago for Southern Ute Agency; were last seen near Lareto Station, on Rio Grande Railroad; fears they have been killed by soldiers; if so, Southern Utes will seek revenge; will start for that agency at noon.

POLLOCK, *Inspector*.

[Telegram.]

PAGOSA SPRINGS, COLORADO,
November 2, 1879.

TO COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

Arrived here to day from Southern Agency; quiet prevails there. They declared in council yesterday they had not and would not have anything to do with White River matters. Am suffering with rheumatism. Expect to reach Alamosa eight, thence to Denver for medical treatment.

POLLOCK, *Inspector*.

ALAMOSA, COLOR.,
November 5, 1879.

SIR: In regard to the Southern Ute Agency, I have the honor to report:

The agent there is a man of experience and ability, and seems to be satisfactory to the Indians and to the people by whom he is surrounded. His accounts are far behind, on account, he says, of the Ute difficulties at White River occupying his time; his cash-book is not and has not been written up in accordance with the circular recently issued on that subject, nor have sales to employés been made in accordance with the circular on that subject. Moreover, Indian blankets, &c., are used here by employés. In all these respects this agency and Los Pinos are alike.

Beef-hides are sold and the proceeds expended for the "benefit of the Indians," not in accordance with any circular *now* in force to my knowledge.

At this agency there are two wooden buildings—a warehouse and issue-house—and a combined cooking, eating, and sleeping house and office; also a small frail corral.

The reservation occupied by the Southern Utes, as also by the Uncompahgre Utes, is a reservation only in name. Cattle by the thousand run on both. White men cross and recross them at will; they are "prospected" upon; timber is cut therefrom, and coal burnt thereon; white men living near sell the Indians whisky and buy their annuities, seemingly without remedy, and these violations of law are not mentioned by the press here, which says, "the Utes must go," and that there is but *one side* to the question.

Scarcely any of the Southern Utes wear clothing, and but few of the

Uncompahgre Utes; consequently most of the clothing sent there is "swapped off" or given away. No farming whatever is done at the Southern, and only what Ouray does at the other, agency. To attempt to move the Southern Utes to the Navajoe will, in my judgment, result in war.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. J. POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

ALAMOSA, COLO.,
November 5, 1879.

TO COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, D. C.:

Arrived last night too late for telegraphing. Received your dispatch of 1st instant. Am suffering with rheumatism. Will go to Denver tomorrow. Thence to Rosebud soon as possible.

POLLOCK,
Inspector.

[Telegram, dated Deer Park, Md.]

TO GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,

Chief Clerk Interior Department,

Washington, D. C.:

Inquire of Brooks whether Indian Bureau has any information from agent; if there is none or confirmatory direct Brooks to telegraph, or telegraph in my name to Agent Meeker to make every effort to induce return of Indians absent from reservation, and if necessary to call upon nearest military post for immediate assistance.

C. SCHURZ.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO,

In the Field, Alamosa, Colo., November 7, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the commission will begin to take evidence on the 12th instant at Los Pinos Agency, and that I have so notified the members of the commission.

If any instructions have been given to any of the commissioners not known to myself, which information should be in possession of all, I respectfully request a copy may be furnished me, mailed to Los Pinos Agency.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HATCH,

Colonel Ninth Cavalry and Brevet Major-General

U. S. A., Commissioner.

Hon. CARL SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, November 8, 1879.

General CHARLES ADAMS,

Special Agent Los Pinos Agency, via Del Norte, Colo.:

Agent Stanley inquires whether White River Utes, while commission is sitting, are to be fed. My opinion is that they are entitled to nothing. They took 1,700 head of cattle from White River and destroyed other supplies. The cattle may keep them alive for some time. If want makes them feel what they have done, so much the better. I leave it, however, to the commission to decide whether the granting or withholding of supplies will be best calculated to make them surrender the guilty and accede to other conditions. Perhaps the alternative of supplies if they yield, or starvation if they don't, may have a strong effect. Communicate the judgment of the commission on this point to Agent Stanley, who will act accordingly. Show this to Stanley as answer to his despatch. Keep in mind that according to treaty all those members of Ute tribe who commit hostilities against the government lose their treaty rights. Your success is earnestly hoped for.

C. SCHURZ,
*Secretary.*HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO,
In the Field, Animas City, Colo., October 30, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of communication of 20th, relative to contemplated movements of troops. My command is now sufficiently concentrated. The Wingate column (Colonel Buell) is in camp on the La Platte, 12 miles west; the main column on the Animas River.

I have had no trouble in supplying the command, and, so far, at reasonable rate, not exceeding those now paid at Fort Lewis; though short of transportation, have employed very few teams. In the event of a movement, should the Indian commissioners fail in negotiating an arrangement, shall then be obliged to hire. Should Merritt advance, and column move by Del Norte to the Uncompahgre, the Indians will be found in the Big Bend of the Dolores, where they can subsist their animals, and are well protected by the almost inaccessible cañons of the Grand and Dolores Rivers. This region is 50 miles from Los Pinos Agency, and 50 miles from La Platte River. My command is in position to reach that point earlier than the others, and should be pushed there at once, if the campaign opens. As this command will have but 100 mounted men, it is advisable to add to it two additional companies of cavalry to make it effective for field service. It is possible the hostiles will fight this column; not probable they will form any serious resistance to Merritt's 1,200 strong, and the Garland column of 900.

It is estimated about the mines at Rico there are 2,000 people. A rough sketch of the region referred to inclosed, showing the probable route that will be taken by the hostiles, if they come south, as it will be impossible to cross the San Juan Mountains in December. This sketch

shows the great Indian trail. If the Indians are once driven south of Grand River, they will come south by this trail.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD HATCH,
Colonel Ninth Cavalry, Commanding.

ACTING ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

[Indorsements.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth, November 4, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the assistant adjutant-general, Military Division of the Missouri, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding.

JNO. POPE,
Brevet Major General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, November 10, 1879.

Respectfully returned to the chief engineer of the division, who will procure a copy of the inclosed "Drainage Map of Colorado," for file in this office.

By command of Lieutenant-General Sheridan.

WM. D. WHIPPLE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Office Chief Engineer, Chicago, Illinois, November 11, 1879.

Respectfully returned to the Assistant Adjutant-General, U. S. A., Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri.

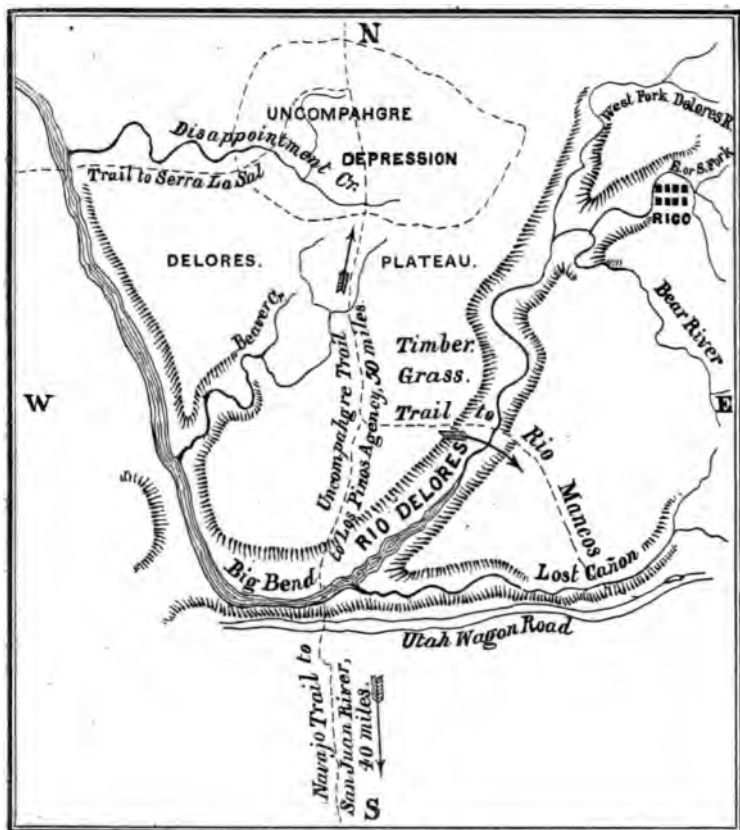
The inclosed "Drainage Map" is included in the "Atlas of Colorado," (F. V. Hayden) issued by the Department of the Interior, a copy of which is in my office. Application is made to-day for another copy, in accordance with fourth indorsement hereon.

JAMES F. GREGORY,
Captain of Engineers, Chief Engineer of the Division.

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, November 13, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.



WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 21, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the Honorable Secretary of the Interior
for his information.

G. W. MCCRARY,
Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 22, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

FORT WASHAKIE, WYO.
November 1, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Department of the Platte, Omaha, Nebr.:

In reply to your telegram of 29th ultimo, in regard to reports c

Arapahoes being engaged with Utes in fights at White River, Agent Patton has just reported as follows :

In reply to your request within, I have the honor to state that the matter referred to has received my earliest attention, and after a long talk with the principal men of the Arapahoe tribe of Indians, I am thoroughly convinced the report does the Arapahoes great injustice, as not one of their tribe was absent from their reservation at the time mentioned. Indian Inspector John McNeil, now here, reports to-day to Indian commissioner careful inquiry discovers that no Arapahoes were absent from reservation at time of Meeker's murder or have been since.

I have and will continue to make every possible effort to trace and discover any small parties of Arapahoes that may have been absent, but have not discovered the slightest foundation for such reports, and fully concur in my belief with the above reports of the agent and inspector.

J. J. UPHAM,
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., November 3, 1879.

Official copy respectfully furnished the assistant adjutant-general, United States Army, headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding.

By command and in the absence of Brigadier-General Crook.
R. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, November 6, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General Commanding.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
November 5, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill. :

The following is reported for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General Commanding.

ANIMAS, COLO., *via Alamosa, Colo., November 4, 1879.*

Order received to report to commission. Have sent for Colonel Buell. Will turn command of this column over to him. Leave on arrival to-morrow. Please send order to me at Alamosa under which Colonel Mackenzie assumed command Fort Garland and relieved the quartermaster and commissary on duty at that post.

Indian runners arrived to-day. Say the Indians have had 27 killed, and desire peace. Ignacio and other chiefs, all now here, say they will do what they can to give up the murderers at White River.

HATCH, Colorado.

Received at Alamosa and forwarded November 4, 1879.

VALOIS,
Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,

Chicago, November 6, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. P. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General Commanding.

MISSOURI DIVISION,

November 6, 1879.

Lieutenant-General Sheridan forwards copy of telegram from General Pope, repeating one from Colonel Hatch, who has received orders to report to commissioner, and will turn over command of column to Colonel Buell.

Runners say hostiles had 27 killed, and desire peace. Ignacio and other chiefs say they will do all they can to give up the White River murderers.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington, November 11, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., November 11, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCRARY,

Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

November 13, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. JOSEPH,

Acting Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,

November 28, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.:

The following is repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,

*Brevet Major-General, Commanding.*LOS PINOS AGENCY, *November 26, 1879.*

General POPE,

Fort Leavenworth, Kans.:

The White River Utes have stampeded this morning upon report that troops had advanced to Uintah agency to make arrests. Until the Indians are assured this is not true all business comes to a standstill.

HATCH, *Colonel.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, November 29, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
November 6, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.:
The following repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General.
JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ALAMOSA, COLO., *November 5, 1879.*

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth:

Nothing in way of Indian news, but may have omitted to state that, day I left, Animas, chief of Southern Utes, stated they would not go to council at Los Pinos Agency, as requested by Ouray, nor have anything to do with White River troubles.

HATCH, *Colonel.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, November 7, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General Commanding.

MISSOURI DIVISION, *November 7, 1879.*

Lieutenant-General Sheridan forwards telegram from General Pope, reporting nothing in the way of Indian news. Chief of Southern Utes stated they would not go to council at Los Pinos, nor have anything to do with the White River troubles.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *November 11, 1879.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 11, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. MCCRARY,
Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 13, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
R. JOSEPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.



WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 21, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the Honorable Secretary of the Interior
for his information.

G. W. MCCRARY,
Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 22, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

FORT WASHAKIE, WYO.
November 1, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Department of the Platte, Omaha, Nebr.:

In reply to your telegram of 29th ultimo, in regard to reports

Arapahoes being engaged with Utes in fights at White River, Agent Patton has just reported as follows :

In reply to your request within, I have the honor to state that the matter referred to has received my earliest attention, and after a long talk with the principal men of the Arapahoe tribe of Indians, I am thoroughly convinced the report does the Arapahoes great injustice, as not one of their tribe was absent from their reservation at the time mentioned. Indian Inspector John McNeil, now here, reports to-day to Indian commissioner careful inquiry discovers that no Arapahoes were absent from reservation at time of Meeker's murder or have been since.

I have and will continue to make every possible effort to trace and discover any small parties of Arapahoes that may have been absent, but have not discovered the slightest foundation for such reports, and fully concur in my belief with the above reports of the agent and inspector.

J. J. UPHAM,
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Fort Omaha, Nebr., November 3, 1879.

Official copy respectfully furnished the assistant adjutant-general, United States Army, headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, for the information of the Lieutenant-General commanding.

By command and in the absence of Brigadier-General Crook.

R. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, November 6, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General Commanding.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
November 5, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill. :

The following is reported for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General Commanding.

ANIMAS, COLO., *via Alamosa, Colo., November 4, 1879.*

Order received to report to commission. Have sent for Colonel Buell. Will turn command of this column over to him. Leave on arrival to-morrow. Please send order to me at Alamosa under which Colonel Mackenzie assumed command Fort Garland and relieved the quartermaster and commissary on duty at that post.

Indian runners arrived to-day. Say the Indians have had 27 killed, and desire peace. Ignacio and other chiefs, all now here, say they will do what they can to give up the murderers at White River.

HATCH, *Colorado.*

Received at Alamosa and forwarded November 4, 1879.

V. VALOIS,
Acting Assistant Quartermaster.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,

Chicago, November 6, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

P. P. SHERIDAN,

Lieutenant-General Commanding.

MISSOURI DIVISION,

November 6, 1879.

Lieutenant-General Sheridan forwards copy of telegram from General Pope, repeating one from Colonel Hatch, who has received orders to report to commissioner, and will turn over command of column to Colonel Buell.

Runners say hostiles had 27 killed, and desire peace. Ignacio and other chiefs say they will do all they can to give up the White River murderers.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington, November 11, 1879.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., November 11, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCURRY,

Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

November 13, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

R. JOSEPH,

Acting Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,

November 28, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,

Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.:

The following is repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General.

JOHN POPE,

*Brevet Major-General, Commanding.*LOS PINOS AGENCY, *November 26, 1879.*

General POPE,

Fort Leavenworth, Kans.:

The White River Utes have stampeded this morning upon report that troops had advanced to Uintah agency to make arrests. Until the Indians are assured this is not true all business comes to a standstill.

HATCH, *Colonel.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, November 29, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

[Telegram.]

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANS.,
November 6, 1879.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.:

The following repeated for the information of the Lieutenant-General.
JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

ALAMOSA, COLO., *November 5, 1879.*

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI,
Fort Leavenworth:

Nothing in way of Indian news, but may have omitted to state that, day I left, Animas, chief of Southern Utes, stated they would not go to council at Los Pinos Agency, as requested by Ouray, nor have anything to do with White River troubles.
HATCH, *Colonel.*

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,
Chicago, November 7, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the Army.
P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General Commanding.

MISSOURI DIVISION, *November 7, 1879.*

Lieutenant-General Sheridan forwards telegram from General Pope, reporting nothing in the way of Indian news. Chief of Southern Utes stated they would not go to council at Los Pinos, nor have anything to do with the White River troubles.

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Adjutant-General.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, *November 11, 1879.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 11, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCRARY,
Secretary of War.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 13, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
R. JOSEPH,
Acting Chief Clerk.

[Telegram.]

CHICAGO, *November 20, 1879.*To General E. D. TOWNSEND,
Washington, D. C.:

The following telegram is forwarded for the information of the General of the Army.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
*Lieutenant-General.*FORT LEAVENWORTH, *November 19.*

Hatch telegraphs from Los Pinos on 17th Indians are becoming more reticent and show more temper, and evidently inclined to protect White River Utes.

JOHN POPE,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Official copy.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
*Adjutant-General.*WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 22, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCRARY,
*Secretary of War.*DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 28, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
Chief Clerk.

[Indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., November 22, 1879.

Respectfully transmitted to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior for his information.

G. W. McCRARY,
*Secretary of War.*DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
November 28, 1879.

Respectfully referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

GEO. M. LOCKWOOD,
*Chief Clerk.*WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
December 23, 1878.

SIR: I have yours, December 4, 1878 ("Colorado M. 2152"), stating that no further appropriation will be made for the construction of the irrigating ditch, for the reason that I failed to obtain the consent of the Indians to expend the \$3,000 appropriated by Congress. Now, inasmuch as the form in which their consent was to be obtained and presented

to you was not defined, and as it seems to me immaterial, I could not help believing that, if the representative portion themselves went to work—for not all could be employed—that this would be the best possible evidence of their “consent;” while if they made their marks and went off hunting such consent would be of comparatively little value. I did induce them to go to work to the number of twenty-five, which was all I could supply with tools, and they worked faithfully for thirty days, when they were broken off by freezing weather, which made further progress impossible. Further than this, these twenty-five were not insignificant men, but headmen, the principal one and leader being Douglas, the chief of all the White River Utes, and so acknowledged by all; and thus it was the “administration” party. Particular evidence of their labor will be furnished at the close of the present quarter, in the receipts of these Indians for the cash paid them, amounting to \$303, nearly one-fifth of the cost of the ditch to date.

Now, I received from you Treasury warrant dated August 30, 1878, appropriating \$1,000 for constructing irrigating ditch, which was in response to a statement of the case I previously made, that there are two parties, violently opposed to each other, and that whatever measure the government desires to carry out the other would oppose, and, consequently, that nothing could be done toward securing unanimity, particularly where a step toward civilization was proposed, and they would be likely to agree only when the prospect should be favorable to the savage life, when they would crush government between them. I saw then that my only chance was to use one party, and securing the party in power, and the one having most brains, and now great prestige, their action and good-will should be recognized; nor should the dissenting faction triumph. I now claim, and I think you will agree with me, that Douglas and his band should be considered as representative of all the rest, whether they agree with him or oppose him, and this because there is no other way to run any kind of government.

The \$1,000 having been received, I succeeded, after a long time, in gaining the *de facto* and *de jure* party, and with all confidence went forward. The dissenting party went off, maintaining their first position, *that white men ought to dig the ditch and not the Indians*, for the money was theirs; and they even declare that they ought to have a part that was to be paid. When they were told they should not have a “nickel” unless they worked, Jack, the leader of the faction, or opposition, said if the Commissioner would send him a letter, telling him to work, he would put on his men and dig it; which undoubtedly he would do; but in this case Douglas and his men would not touch a shovel. In such a case the dissenting party cannot count at all.

The first half mile was through a forest, requiring immense labor. This was given to Mr. Lithgore, who brought an outfit from Bear River; and having been paid a part out of the \$1,000, there remains due him \$431.50; Mr. Curtis, who put on a machine, and had charge of the Indians, has \$175.20 coming to him; while the Indians have been paid in full, \$303; making now \$606.70 due, for which I respectfully ask an appropriation. Getting this, I shall need no more of the \$3,000, since the ditch, as now completed, will water at least one thousand acres of land; and I do not hesitate to affirm the cost per acre is less than under any irrigating course in Colorado. After the 1,000 acres is in cultivation the ditch can be extended by Indian labor; indeed, they propose to finish it next spring.

I have met with great difficulties in attaining the object of getting land ready for cultivation next spring, and on their account I lost two

months valuable time, when plows should have been running. Still we have a fair breadth broken; and I hope that, from the statement made, you will see fit to authorize the steps I took by recognizing Douglas and his party of working Indians as the representatives of the Utes.

Respectfully, yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
December 23, 1878.

SIR: Having received funds from you for this quarter, and having made a request of you last week (16th) to purchase certain agricultural implements in Chicago, I now find that I have on hand money to purchase the same, authority having been previously granted, and therefore no response to that request of 16th instant would seem necessary. If, however, you have a purchasing agent in Chicago, I would like it if he could buy the goods, and in this respect I wish a reply.

Now we need a heavy four-inch wagon for hauling logs and other like things. All the wagons here are either light or old and the only heavy wagon (never on the property roll, I understand) is almost ready to drop down; still it is used, and we have nothing for lumbering purposes that can be depended upon. As I am not quite certain whether such a wagon can be called an "agricultural implement," I ask an appropriation not to exceed one hundred and fifty dollars to buy the same.

Respectfully, yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 20, 1879.

SIR: I write to you to say in regard to grist and saw-mill, and the plan of combination makes it necessary to move the saw-mill, but a difficulty arises in the fact that we have no wagon strong enough to hold up the boiler. I have asked of you authority to purchase a suitable wagon, and hope a favorable response, for without it nothing can be done. I dislike to ask for so many things as I am doing, but it must be considered that I am starting almost anew, and that much of old stock and material are decayed. To put several hundred acres of land in cultivation requires quite an outlay in implements, and always and everywhere this purchase presents the greatest obstacle to successful agriculture.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

February 3, 1879.

SIR: I have yours January 20, 1879, "A," Colorado, "M. 2413" 1878, in reply to mine of December 2, 1878, in regard to furnishing wagons to Indians in exchange for horses, and I agree with you that difficulties might arise. My suggestion arose in wanting the Indians to pay something for wagons, but it is likely such an arrangement would work better after we progress further, for now we are only beginning. I wish therefore you could furnish, say—

3 2½-inch light 2-horse wagons, costing in Chicago \$70 each..	\$210 00
3 sets double harness, \$35 each.....	115 00

325 00

I write in another letter of this date, that one Indian, Johnson, is anxious for a wagon, that we are breaking a span of horses for him, and that I shall loan him a wagon. Douglas, the chief, also needs one, and should have it; also several others. I think could make great headway if I could supply them.

In this connection I would refer you to my letter December 16, 1878, being a request for one dozen 1-horse turning and shovel plows; one harrow (Thomas), and 1 dozen gears or plow harness (collar, hames, bridle, and draw chains), which we badly need for our own and Indians, use next season, costing less than \$300. I hope there will be no failure in providing funds for these in this quarter's remittance; and also provide for the wagons.

These things cannot well be bought elsewhere than in Chicago, and I can order them, or would prefer they be bought by your purchasing agent, if you have one there.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(F. Colorado. M. 307. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
February 18, 1879.

SIR: Your letter dated 3d instant, requesting to be authorized to purchase wagons, harness, plows, and a harrow was received, and you are advised that on the 5th proximo a special awarding of contracts will be made in New York City, at which time there will be bought for your agency 33 1-4 inch wagons, 1 log wagon, 24 sets harness, 30 plows and 1 harrow, and that the same will be shipped as soon thereafter as practicable.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

the saddle all day long and in the active work of rounding the cattle, which of necessity are half wild; the horses are put to their best speed; frequently the ground is broken; and in such case the rider must be secure of his seat, or both horse and rider are liable to serious accident.

There are but three saddles on the property roll of this agency, a number wholly inadequate, with the 1,500 or 1,600 head of cattle scattered over a range of 30 miles, and I feel that I must ask, though reluctantly, for authority to purchase three California saddles in Denver, at a cost not to exceed \$40 each, a total of \$120.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

F. Colorado, M—157, 1879.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 27, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, I have to say that it is not deemed expedient to authorize you to purchase three saddles, costing \$40 each, and that you will have to use the four sent you from New York, instead of issuing them to the Indians, as you suggest.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colo.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 13, 1879.

SIR: I have this day sent to the Treasury of the United States, through the First National Bank of Denver, the sum of 153.31, the same being proceeds of sales of subsistence to employés at this agency for the fourth quarter of 1878.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 13, 1879.

SIR: I beg leave to call your attention to the fact that if I should succeed, as I think I certainly shall, in getting the Indians to engage in agriculture, and by this means more and more keep them close to the agency, the fine herd of cattle, now numbering about 1,500 head, will, in the course of two years, almost wholly disappear. Even now, with a part of the Indians here, though more than formerly, the slaugh-

tering of cattle is nearly up to the increase ; and yet the amount of beef issued is, on the average, fully 20 per cent. less than they are allowed. That they get along with this short ration is undoubtedly owing to the excellent quality of the beef. We never slaughter any but full-grown steers in prime order, but the supply of these is running down fearfully, and it must be manifest that when these are gone, as they quickly would be upon the accession of any considerably greater number of Indians, we should be obliged to butcher two-year olds, and then yearlings, then cows, when the increase would be cut off, and the herd would disappear.

I know that these Indians have more and better beef than the same average number of white people have anywhere, whether in Europe or in America, and more than can possibly be supplied to white people, and these Indians have more, too, than they deserve; but if, as seems to be the case, Government intends to supply them, I conceive it my duty to advise you as to the best method of keeping up their supply.

Now, I think it certain that double the amount of beef now issued will be absolutely required before eighteen months are passed; and that the demand may be most economically met, not less than three hundred stock cattle should be purchased, and put on some range by itself down the river. Stock cattle includes a proper proportion of cows, calves, two and three year olds, which are bought at so much a head, all under yearlings being thrown in, and the usual price for common grades is from \$16 to \$22 a head. Therefore the cost of 300 head would be about \$6,000. With this addition, and nothing less would answer, the steers would be added to those we have, and the two-year olds would soon come on so that the business would keep running.

This lot of 300 should include cattle of a higher grade, so as to keep up the present grade.

I want to get a start of hogs next year, and I mean to have all the families who go to farming keep poultry; and besides having plenty of vegetables, the beef ration can be cut down, perhaps one-half, as it ought to be and must be, if we are to have any civilization. Now, this is the situation of affairs, and I await your action.

Respectfully yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 20, 1879.

SIR: I have been corresponding with S. S. Kennedy & Co., Greeley, Colo., in regard to our grist-mill, because I knew the parties, that they understood their business, having been remarkably successful. As they made the inquiries agreeably to my request, I send you the response of Messrs. Todd & Co., Saint Louis, Mo., and I judge the prices are fully as low as if it had been known the mill was for the government. The proposition is for a mill that will grind two barrels of flour an hour, and will cost a total of \$794.45, while the weight will be about 7,200 pounds. To this must be added the damping apparatus, costing perhaps \$100 more, for, on account of the extreme dryness of this climate, it is impossible to make decent flour unless from a pint to a quart of water is added to each bushel of wheat, since, without it, it will all chop together.

for seed. The bulk is for feed; or add "and feed," so as to read, "for seed and feed."

I shall proceed immediately to purchase the three span of mules and the grain, and I am in doubt whether the \$1,000 appropriated is to be deposited in First National Bank, Denver, or how I am to draw it. Please advise me.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(F, Colorado, M—429—79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
March 1, 1879.

SIR: Your letter dated 17th ultimo is received, and you are informed that the authority granted in office letter of the 3d ultimo is so far amended as to permit you to use the grain to be purchased either for seed or feed.

You will include in your next estimate of funds a request for the \$1,000 authorized in above-mentioned office-letter to be expended, referring to this letter by date as your authority for so doing.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

(F, Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
February 26, 1879.

SIR: You are again requested to make up from the agency record and forward at once the supply report for week ending May 11, 1879. This report covers the last week of Ex-Agent Danforth's administration of the affairs of the agency. There must be a retained copy of said report among the agency files, from which you can obtain the information called for. But one copy of such report is required for the use of this office.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 3, 1879.

SIR: I have yours, 18th ultimo, ("F. Colorado, M. 307-79,") in which you advise me that contracts will be made in New York City, 5th prom-
imo, for buying for this agency 33-inch wagons, 1 log wagon, 24 ad-

harness, 30 plows, and 1 harrow. To this I have to say that only steel plows should be bought, as cast-iron Eastern plows will not scour and therefore will be useless; that the wagons should be made to stand this dry climate, which those made for eastern markets will not do. These articles are best purchased in Chicago. The harrow should be Thomas's smoothing harrow.

I shall want all these things, even in a few months, for there are plenty Indians, mostly young men, ready to go to work at farming this season.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 10, 1879.

SIR: I note that in statement of funds remitted for first quarter, 1879, January 10, 1879, you include the pay of herder and Indian assistant herder, in the sum allowed for regularly authorized employés, under head of "pay of employés." Now, hitherto the funds for the payment of herder and Indian assistants have been kept under separate heads, viz, "Subsistence pay of herder and Indian assistants," and I wish to know if you wish the two accounts to be consolidated or kept separate. If the accounts are to be consolidated how am I to have the account at the bank arranged, since there was a balance at the beginning of the quarter to the credit of "subsistence, &c.," of \$105. Until I hear from you further the account will be divided as hitherto.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

("F."—Colorado—M—550-79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
March 20, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 10th instant relative to an amount remitted to you per tabular statement for first quarter, 1879, for pay of herder and Indian assistant herder to be paid from the "subsistence fund," under treaty with the Utes, I have to advise you that the subsistence amount should be kept separate from funds under sub-head "Pay of employés" in making up your accounts.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colo.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 17, 1879.

SIR: In yours February 18, (F. Colorado, M. 307-79,) you state that three wagons and twenty-four harness, as well as other things will be purchased in New York for this agency, and I wish particularly to say that inasmuch as I had asked for plow harness, it is important that it should not be of this kind, but that there should be three sets of double harness to go with the three wagons, as they are, I suppose, for the Indians; perhaps they might all be double harness—that is, twelve sets, equal to twenty-four, for they can be used also for plow harness by taking off the breeching.

Respectfully yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 17, 1879.

SIR: Inclosed I send you two specimens of paper flour sacks; the smaller is one of a lot purchased in New York, January 8, 1879, of Robinson, Lloyd & Co, 1,000 of 2,000 having been received, and on examination they are found to be 20 pounds instead of 25 pounds as billed. The pencil mark "B 2 25 is," as appearing when received at the agency. This lot of 1,000 was "packed in"; the remainder are on Snake River. Practically, these 20-pound sacks are no better than 10-pound because, being of poor quality, they cannot be handled readily, and because two sacks are required to hold 20 pounds of flour. Our habit is to have the Indians empty the paper sacks into cloth sacks which they bring, and if the paper sacks are large and strong enough they can be used several times, so that there is great economy in having good 20-pound sacks. The larger sack inclosed is such as we should have; it has been used twice and could be used twice more.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 17, 1879.

SIR: I ask your authority for having purchased and for now paying for 200 25 pound papersacks, received from James France, Rawlins, Wyo. January 18, 1869. The case was one of great exigency, as I was entirely out and had to use quite small sacks, and in carrying which the Indians not infrequently lost their flour; and said sacks were packed through deep snow, in the dead of winter.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March, 17, 1879.

SIR: I would ask your authority for the payment of one firing-bolt ordered by Ex-Agent Danforth, April 29, 1878, amounting to the sum of \$1.50; also for the payment of 18 sections for Backy mowing-machine, purchase made July 2, 1878, \$1.50. The firing-bolt belonged to the Agency rifle, used in butchering weekly, and was indispensable; and the mowing-machine parts being worn out had to be immediately supplied.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
April 10, 1879.

SIR: Acknowledging the receipt of your two letters dated the 17th ultimo, in one of which you ask the approval of exigency purchase to an extent of \$6, and in the letter reporting a similar purchase of 200 25-pound paper sacks, you are advised that your action in making the purchase first named has been approved by the honorable the Secretary of the Interior; but inasmuch as you did not state the cost of said sacks your request for the approval of their purchase cannot be granted until the information is supplied.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 24, 1879.

SIR: I ask your authority for the payment of Albert S. Smart, Hayden, Colo., for feeding and care of a government mule from October 26 to March 19, inclusive, amounting to the sum of \$15.

The cause of this outlay originated in sending Edgar G. Clark, an employé, October 7, 1878, over the range to get a blacksmith, as the one we had was incapable of doing absolutely necessary work, and was discharged. Mr. Clark rode said mule over the mountains and met violent storms, both in going and coming, and when near Hayden the mule could go no further and was abandoned, and a horse hired. (See particulars voucher 16, fourth quarter, 1878.) The mule is now on the way either in care of the mail-rider, and it is said to be in good condition. It is true that the mule is old, like the rest of the stock, but in our scarcity of teams he will help greatly in our spring plowing. I think the bill is low and that it should be paid.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
April 10, 1879.

SIR: As requested in your letter dated the 24th ultimo, you have been authorized by the honorable the Secretary of the Interior to pay \$15 for taking care of and feeding a government mule, from October 26, 1878, to March 19, 1879.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 16, 1879.

SIR: I send you my cash account for first quarter, 1879. The delay arose, first, from not receiving funds until May 9; and, second, I failed until a few days ago to get Mr. Lithgow's vouchers signed.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, June 27, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose, herewith, the following vouchers and sub-vouchers for certain expenditures made by General Edward Hatch, chairman Ute special commission, and pertaining to his accounts for the fourth quarter, 1878, and first quarter, 1879, and to recommend the approval of the same, as the different expenditures seem to have been necessary to the successful completion of the objects and purposes for which the commission was formed:

Voucher 2, sub voucher 2, for stationery used in business and correspondence of the commission, amounting to.....	\$15 35
Sub-voucher 3, for groceries purchased for members of the commission when traveling on business in the Ute country during negotiations with the Utes.....	72 23
Sub-voucher 13, items 4 and 7, for board of Agents Holt and Weaver during the session of the commission at Pagosa Springs, Colo., amounting to.....	16 00
Sub-voucher 14, for temporary clerk-hire during the absence of the secretary of the commission making payments to Indians at Los Pinos Agency.....	20 00
Voucher 4, for rations for special interpreter A. H. Pfeiffer while en route to the different tribes of Utes, from October 8 to November 7, 1878.....	11 25
Voucher 5, for hotel expenses at Alamosa, Colo., by Colonel Pfeiffer while awaiting instructions from commission from September 6 to 20, inclusive..	42 00
Total.....	176 83

The return of the inclosed vouchers is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 30, 1879.

SIR: The mail is now coming here three times a week, and the contractor wishes to get his horses shod at our shop. There is no other shop nearer than seventy-five miles, if so near, and, as we have a good smith and can do the work, I ask your authority to do the shoeing at usual rates, the money received, I judge, coming under the head of miscellaneous receipts. An early response is respectfully asked for.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A.—Colorado—M—1365—1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 12, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 13th ultimo, stating that the contractor for carrying the United States mail desires to have his horses shod at your agency, there being no other blacksmith shop within seventy-five miles thereof, I have to inform you that it is not customary to allow work to be done in the agency shops for the accommodation of the public, but the case to which you refer appears to be one of necessity, authority is hereby granted to have such work done for the mail-carrier as may be needed for the proper expedition of the United States mail and the benefit of the Indian service, charging a reasonable amount therefor. All moneys received for said work and for materials furnished must be taken up and accounted for under the head of "Miscellaneous receipts, received from United States mail contractor" and deposited to the credit of the United States in the nearest United States depository, the original certificate of deposit to be transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury and the duplicate to this office.

A copy of this letter should accompany your accounts.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Dakota.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 30, 1879.

SIR: It is likely I can get some of the Indians to haul flour hither from the old agency location, and I ask your authority to pay them, say, 20 cents a sack. They have got their horses so as to work decently well; harness has been issued, and it would be a good plan to have them engaged in such work. I have thought that after a while they might do some freighting from the railroad. Our teams are busy all the time, haying having commenced, and summer plowing is about to, so that Indian hauling would help both us and themselves.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A.—Colorado—M—1367—1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July, 15, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, asking for authority to employ some of the Indians under your charge to haul flour from the old agency to the new location, as they have learned to work their horses quite well since the harnesses have been issued to them, you are advised that the requisite authority is hereby granted to so employ the Indians, and to pay them twenty cents per sack therefor.

With reference to the employment of the Indian teams in freighting government stores from the railroad to the agency, I have to state that this office entered into contract with Nathan W. Wells, of Schuyler, Nebr., under date of April 23, 1879, for the transportation of all supplies and goods purchased by the Indian Department during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, to be by him delivered at the agency. You are, therefore, directed to endeavor to obtain employment for your Indians from the contractor for such transportation, at a reasonable rate of compensation.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

(A.—Colorado—M—909-910-911-912-1156-1145-1146-1289. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 2, 1879.

SIR: The appointment and resignation of the following employes at the White River Agency, Colorado, recommended in your communication of May 24, and June 16, 1879, are hereby approved.

APPOINTED.

Arthur L. Thompson, laborer, May 10, 1879, at \$720 per annum.
Frank C. Dresser, laborer, May 10, 1879, at \$720 per annum.
Fred. E. Shepherd, laborer, May 10, 1879, at \$720 per annum.
Shadrick Price, farmer, May 10, 1879, at \$720 per annum.
Wilmer E. Eskridge, laborer, June 7, 1870, at \$720 per annum.

RESIGNED.

Edgar E. Clark, farmer, April 30, 1879.
James S. Fullerton, laborer, May 7, 1879.

Your report of irregular Indian laborers for the month of April last, involving an expenditure of \$112.75, is also approved.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: I would respectfully request that the employé holding the position of carpenter, be detailed as issue-clerk, with a salary proper for skilled labor, and such as it should demand, to wit, \$900 a year.

The clerical work of the agency is constantly growing heavier, by reason of the increase of operations in every department. I hope you will see the justice and propriety of the request. Of course the place of carpenter will remain vacant if the request is granted.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C

(Colorado—M-1437-1687-1826. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
September 24, 1879.

SIR: Your reports only of irregular Indian employés for the months of July and August, 1879, involving an expenditure of \$210.25, are approved, as follows:

July	\$73 00
August	37 25
Total	110 25

Referring to your request that you may be allowed to detail your carpenter as issue-clerk, and increase his salary from \$720 to \$900 per annum, you are advised that you may detail him as issue-clerk in accordance with latter clause of section 5, Indian appropriation bill for the year ending June 30, 1880, which provides that, "when necessary, specified employés may be detailed for clerical or other service when not required for the duty for which they were engaged."

In regard to increasing his salary to \$900 per annum, I have to say that it is not deemed advisable to make any deviation from the compensation authorized by the department under date of July 14, 1879.

Respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: As I have on hand well towards 700 sacks of flour, I would ask the authority to increase the amount weekly issued. The reasons are, first, the present amount looks, and is, small; second, the ration list calls for 50 pounds flour and 50 pounds cornmeal, but as we have no cornmeal, justice would call for an increase of flour to make up the defi-

ciency. Therefore, I would ask that the issue be increased to 100 pounds of flour for 100 rations.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: I feel that you would render us great assistance in our issue of supplies, if you will authorize me to issue salt, baking-powder, tobacco, and beans, monthly. The reason is that, if issued weekly, the amounts will be so small as to appear worthless, while some of the articles are in packages or parcels suited for such monthly issue. Baking-powder, being in covered cans, could be issued monthly, while, if issued weekly, the package would be broken up, the contents be put in paper, and be likely to waste and loss.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: I am at a loss how to account for paper-bags that are issued, as they are on my property-roll, and as no provision is made in the new vouchers for their consumption. Perhaps they could be expended in the agent's department. Please direct how I shall dispose of them.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: In making out form 3 for weekly voucher of articles issued to Indians, for which they are to give their receipt, I am at a loss in regard to reporting the number of beef steers killed, as there is no column in which they can be placed. Please instruct as to what I am to do.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A—Colorado. M—1432-1434-1435-1436. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 18, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of four letters from you, all dated the 7th instant, relating to the manner of issuing and accounting for the supplies furnished to your Indians by the government.

In reply, I have to say first, to your request for authority to issue 50 pounds of flour additional to the amount allowed per 100 rations, in place of cornmeal of which you have none on hand, that the amount of flour may be increased to 75 pounds per 100 rations as long as no cornmeal, or any other substance in lieu of the same, is issued to your Indians.

Second. Referring to the letter in which you ask to be granted the necessary authority to issue salt, baking-powder, tobacco, and beans monthly instead of weekly, for the reason as stated by you that, if issued weekly, the quantities of supplies are so small as to appear worthless, and in consequence are often lost or wasted by the Indians, while some of the articles named are received in packages or parcels better suited for such monthly issues, you are hereby authorized, in view of the fact that supplies are now being issued to heads of families and individual Indians, to issue salt, baking-powder, tobacco, and beans to your Indians once in four weeks instead of weekly, as in the case of other supplies.

Third. In reply to your letter asking to be instructed how to account for paper bags on your property-return, as no provision is made therefor on the new form of vouchers, you are directed to provide an additional column on said voucher for their entry, or to change one of the headings of the column, if issue is not made of each of the various supplies named on the voucher.

Fourth. With reference to your request to be instructed how to report on the voucher accompanying abstract D, of articles issued to Indians, for which they are required to give their receipt, the number of head of cattle slaughtered, you are advised to drop from your property-return, per abstract F, the number of cattle killed during the quarter, and to take up on abstract C the number of pounds of beef (wet) obtained from these cattle, said abstract C to be sustained by the certificates of the agency employes, and then to account for the beef issued by the pound on the proper voucher (form 3) to abstract D, showing all property issued to Indians.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 31, 1879.

SIR: In making the annual requisition for supplies I did not ask for grain, because I expected to raise what we want for feed, and this matter I held in reserve, not knowing what might happen. I now wish for 20,000 pounds oats or half corn. The reason is as follows: The land

I had set apart for growing feed for our teams, being under fence, is mostly selected by Indians for growing various crops, and, as I consider they should have the preference, I give way and make this request.

Still I expect to raise 20 acres in corn, but it will all be needed in addition, because I am about to buy, with your authority, three span of mules, and all our teams are to be kept steadily at work this coming season, largely in breaking new ground for next year's crops. Besides, our herding horses must be better fed than hitherto; first, because they are partly worn out, and second, because the great increase of Indian horses, occupying that range the cattle should have, of which I have written fully before, forces the cattle further back, vastly increasing the circumference of their pastures, now nearly 100 miles, and the horses are incapable, as at present fed, of the service we need. We are now rounding up the cattle that they may be counted, and by night time the horses are scarcely able to move.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
April 7, 1879.

SIR: I would call your attention to the fact that no funds have been received for this closing quarter for the pay of regular employes and other objects, and as the omission may continue long your attention is directed to it.

The payment once in three months is well enough if it is so made, and as it usually is, liabilities are incurred and engagements entered upon, some of a legal character, which, if not met, lead to great embarrassment.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(F—Colorado. M—822. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
April 17, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 7th instant, I have to advise you that a draft for the amount of \$2,934.79 will be issued by the Treasurer of the United States this day, to be placed to your official credit with the First National Bank of Denver, Colo.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
April 28, 1879.

SIR: I hasten to supply the omission indicated in yours of the 10th instant, "Colo., M. 679—677—I, 829, '79," inasmuch as in my letter of 17th March, in asking authority to purchase, in exigency, 200 20-pound paper sacks, I did not mention the cost. This, therefore, is to ask authority to purchase and pay for 200 25-pound paper sacks, at a cost of \$6.50.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
April 28, 1879.

SIR: The supply of salt is nearly exhausted, and to wait till annuity goods come in seems almost impossible. I would, therefore, ask authority to purchase 2 barrels at Rawlins, costing, say, \$18 at that place.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
May 8, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith two letters, dated the 28th ultimo, from Agent Meeker, and respectfully recommend that he be authorized to purchase in open market 200 25-pound paper sacks and 2 barrels of salt, at a cost not to exceed \$6.50 and \$18 respectively, for use at White River Agency, Colorado.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.
Col. M. 969-79.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
May 13, 1879.

SIR: Agreeably with the requests contained in your two letters dated the 28th ultimo, you have been authorized by the honorable the Secretary of the Interior to expend a sum not to exceed \$24.50 in the purchase of 2 barrels of salt and 200 25-pound paper bags for use at your agency.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

Purchase. Colorado, M, 129; I, 1370, 78; M, 1080; I, 1133, 78; M, 831, 79.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
May 8, 1879.

SIR: In view of the approach of the close of the present fiscal year, and that the funds remaining on hand (about \$6,000) from the \$10,000 appropriated by act of Congress approved June 20, 1878, for the removal of the White River Agency to its present location in Powell's Valley, and erection of buildings, &c., may be applicable, there should be no further delay in inaugurating measures looking to the construction of said buildings, and you are directed to at once prepare advertisement for proposals to furnish the necessary materials and skilled labor to be used in the construction of the same, the advertisement to be inserted in those newspapers mentioned in letter of authority of August 8, 1878.

■ The advertisement should be short and general, but sufficiently explicit to enable bidders to obtain a clear and distinct idea of the kind and style of building to be erected.

The sketch (which you designate a plan) received with your letter of December 9 last, herewith returned, so far as it goes, meets the approval of this office, but you will invite bidders to submit with their bids plans and specifications, which you will forward with your recommendations for department approval.

The balance of the before mentioned appropriation remaining on hand and available for the current fiscal year being but about \$6,000, under no circumstances must the total expenditure exceed that amount.

Payment for advertising will be made here at commercial rates upon presentation of the accounts therefor, accompanied by one copy of each issue of the papers containing the same, with printed list of their advertising rates, and affidavits upon the blanks herewith inclosed.

Blank contracts and bonds will be mailed to you, and particular attention should be paid to their execution. See printed directions accompanying said blanks.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 5, 1879.

SIR: I think it both important and economical that a stock of hogs should be had at this agency. We are milking a good many cows, from which comes refuse milk, and now is a good time to get a start. I therefore ask authority to purchase a pair of grade Berkshires, and perhaps a few pigs, at a cost not exceeding \$100. This will include express and all other charges, as well as expenses of myself, since it would be necessary to select and to take care of the same. The occasion would allow me to purchase the mules you have authorized me to buy, for I find men will not bring in mules to be inspected, with a view of making sales. We need these mules badly, and should have them *now*.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

May 27, 1879.

SIR: You have been authorized by the honorable the Secretary of the Interior to expend not more than \$100 in the purchase of stock hogs, as requested in your letter dated the 5th instant.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
*Commissioner.*N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

May 5, 1879.

SIR: Agreeably to the plan of operations entered upon at this agency in regard to farming, it will be necessary to have wire for fencing next spring, for, say, 200 acres. This will require about 4,000 pounds, costing, in Chicago, about 11 cents. This is *Joliet barbed wire*, and no other should be purchased. Also 1 keg staples, costing about \$15, though iron varies in price from time to time. I would therefore request that these goods be purchased and forwarded this season.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
*Indian Agent.*Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

May 12, 1879.

SIR: I send herewith estimate of funds required for this second quarter, 1879.

A good deal of heavy work must be done this quarter, caused by the necessity for running the saw-logs cut last winter, and as I intend to employ quite a number of Indians in addition to the white force, a separate fund for this purpose is asked for. When the Indians are working at their own crops, their pay will be inconsiderable.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
*Indian Agent.*Hon. E. A. HAYT,
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.*DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, May 22, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, inclosing an estimate of funds required for the service in the White River Agency during the second quarter 1879.

In compliance with said estimate, I have this day caused a requisition to issue for the sum of \$5,277.43, to be placed to your credit with the First National Bank of Denver, Colo., from the appropriations and for the objects designated in the tabular statement herewith—for the proper care and disposition of which sum you will be held to account under your bond.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency (via Railins), Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 19, 1879.

SIR: I ask authority hereby to pay for 2,073 pounds oats, in excess of authority to purchase at 70 cents on cars at Omaha, amounting to \$14.51, which oats have been received.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLO.,
May 19, 1879.

SIR: I have just received two Moline plows, expressly ordered for breaking sod, but they are too light for our ground and will not stand. They are excellent, however, and we need them, as the two plows I got last year were well used up, particularly in excavating the ditch. The old plows that were here are useless. Now I want two heavy breakers. Furst and Bradley, Chicago, seem to have the article we want, "wrought frame sulky," costing \$65 each, possibly \$70, with the extras we should have, being so far away. I therefore ask authority to purchase the required plows, to cost a total of \$140, in Chicago. I do not see how we can do breaking without these implements. I remark that after this sod is once rotted, it is beautifully mellow.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 19, 1879.

SIR: I would ask your authority to purchase two buckskins, dressed, at a cost of \$3. The article is in constant request for repairing harness and whips, lashes, &c., and hitherto the expense has been borne by the employes and agent.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 3, 1879.

SIR: Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, Colorado, under date of the 19th ultimo, reports an exigency purchase of 2,073 pounds of oats, at a cost of \$14.50, and asks that the same be approved, and that he be authorized to purchase two buckskins to cost not exceeding \$3; also that he be furnished with two very heavy wrought frame breaking plows, for use at his agency; and I have the honor to recommend that said exigency purchase be approved; that the agent be authorized to purchase the buckskins, and this office the two plows, at a cost not exceeding \$140, and ship them to said agency.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, June 9, 1879.

SIR: Acknowledging the receipt of your three letters dated the 19th ultimo, you are advised that your action in purchasing, under an exigency, 2,073 pounds of oats, at a cost of \$14.50, has been approved by the honorable the Secretary of the Interior, by whom you have been authorized to purchase two buckskins, to cost not more than \$3; and that two heavy breaking plows, of Furst and Bradley manufacture, will this day be ordered shipped to your agency.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 19, 1879.

SIR: I have deposited at the First National Bank, Denver, to the credit of the United States the sum of \$38, being "proceeds of sale of subsistence to employes;" also \$1,000, under appropriations for fulfilling treaty with Tabeguache, &c., to replace like amount taken from said fund August 22, 1878, said fund being unavailable for construction of irrigating ditch.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 19, 1879.

SIR: I find it necessary to ask you to consolidate the two funds of \$2,000 and \$1,000 granted respectively July 6, 1878 (F. Colo., M., 1080;

S. Ex. 31—14

J., 1133, '78), and August 8 (Colo. M., 1219; J., 1370, '78), inasmuch as I see, on close rendering of letters August 8, some of the expenditures made and charged to the \$1,000 do not strictly apply. That is to say, while the \$1,000 was to be devoted to "purchasing such lumber and other necessary materials as will be required in the construction of buildings at your agency," a good part of this fund was devoted to making a road to the pinery, to cutting saw-logs by a party during the winter, and to the building of a boom for holding the logs, constructed of timbers bolted and chained together and held by a crib and strong cables; for, having authority, July 6, to remove the saw-mill, all this work was necessary to utilize it, and I know it was cheaper to make our own lumber than to buy it. The point is that I have used a part of the \$1,000 toward getting lumber sawed in our own mill, instead of buying it at Chicago, and it is this technical diversion which I ask you to authorize by consolidating the two funds.

Besides, the two letters, July 6 and August 8, authorize expenditures for common objects, properly chargeable to either fund, and as they have inevitably run together and lapped over, I hope you will consolidate the two funds into one fund of \$3,000, devoted to the objects collectively enumerated.

This total amount of \$3,000 is now nearly exhausted, and of this, \$2,356.85 has been paid for labor authorized by you.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(F.—Colorado—M—1104—79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 4, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your request contained in your letter dated the 19th ultimo, you are advised that the authorities communicated to you in office letters of the 6th of July and 8th of August last require no consolidation or modification to cover the expenditures made by you.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 26, 1879.

SIR: There are about 4,000 pounds of goods directed to this agency which have been lying at Rawlins a long time, not oats and flour, many of which would be of great use; and now, as I understand, the litigation or suit concerning them, or similar ones, has been decided in the United States court of Wyoming, I presume you will be prepared to

take action, so that the said goods may be transported hither, and therefore your attention is called to the matter.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 5, 1879.

SIR: I will thank you to advise this office as to the status of the case of the United States vs. Union Pacific Railroad, in the matter of the replevin of certain goods for the White River Agency, Colorado, held at Rawlins.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT ATTORNEY,
Cheyenne, Wyoming.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 26, 1879.

SIR: Our planting is nearly completed. There are 15 or 20 Indians who have crops, and they have a total of about 25 acres, mostly sod last year or timbered land. Jack, the chief, opposed to Douglas, has, with three others, fenced an old breaking 10 miles from Powell, and planted the whole, about 7 acres. Thus we have the two rival chiefs striving to outdo each other in farming. The great body of Indians are off on the summer hunt, which is well enough, for I am in no condition this year to set more at work.

The greatest obstacle now presented to making further progress is the want of horses for the Indians; for, unless I can get them placed in permanent homes where they can have conveniences, and accumulate things they value and will take care of, they will be ready to go back and lose all, any day or hour. Beside, they want some furniture, and in particular cooking-stoves, and wagons and harness.

I have asked for a continuance of the force of six additional men, and hope it may be granted, because I sadly need them to carry on the work begun, of getting of getting new land in cultivation, so that more Indians can have land next spring, and of building adobe houses for the Indians, which they are talking about all the time. I can make little or no headway without this addition, because all the regular employes will be needed in the ordinary work and ditches and in arranging and completing what has been entered upon in a new locality.

I am advised that sufficient harness and plows have been purchased, and also three wagons. These will help greatly, but I ought to have at least three more wagons this season.

If the right kind of Indian is provided with a horse, stove, wagon,

&c., more real progress will be effected than by appropriating thousands of dollars to be given out as presents.'

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKES,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 5th, 1879.

SIR: If there were no wagons purchased for the White River Agency, Colorado, under the last awarding of contracts, you will please add to the contract to be made three of the 3½-inch-skein wagons, to be shipped to that point; also, send 10 wood cook-stoves, "Harp," one-half each of No. 2 and 3.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

E. SEWARD,
Nos. 65 and 67 Wooster Street, New York City.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 26, 1879.

SIR: I have bargained for the following property:

One span mules, with wagon and harness.....	\$200
One span mules, with harness.....	125
One herding-horse, with saddle.....	75

\$400

I had sent to J. Max Clark, Greeley, Colo., to buy said mules, having your authority, and at the same time to send in four employés, and they came with the wagon and harness as a sort of necessity. The mules are small, but they are good and true, and cheap. I had authority from you last year to buy two herding-horses. The wagon is almost new, the harness in only tolerable condition. As I had no authority to buy harness, saddle, nor wagon, I hereby ask authority for this whole transaction.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(F.—Colorado M—1158—79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 11, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter, dated the 26th ultimo in which you request the approval of a purchase of a wagon, harness, and one

saddle, without stating the cost thereof, and you are informed that before any action with a view to granting your request will be taken, it is necessary that you furnish the necessary information upon which to base the action which you request.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 11, 1879.

SIR: I wish you would have forwarded to this agency, at once, 10,000 pounds grain, half oats and half corn. We are working all the teams hard, at moving old agency buildings, at plowing, lumbering, &c., and the supply of grain, on hand, is getting low. I have asked for a total of 20,000 pounds and we should have half right away. Mr. N. W. Wells can bring it in immediately, I judge, for he has a train now on the way, the rivers being ferried.

I am writing at new location; the office is not yet done, but will be in a few days; therefore I cannot copy this.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(F, Colorado, Miscell—W—1230. '79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 3, 1879.

SIR: At a recent awarding of contracts for supplies for the Indian service, no proposals to furnish your agency with 20,000 pounds of oats and 1,500 pounds of salt were received, and now N. W. Wells has made a proposition to deliver to your agency said quantities of oats and salt at \$8.35 and \$9.90 per 100 pounds respectively, but I deem the prices excessive, and therefore wish you to ascertain if lower rates cannot be obtained.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

(F. Finance Claim—7820.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 11, 1879.

SIR: Referring to bills of lading, receipted by you for the breaking-
ws, &c., weighing 374 pounds, delivered by N. W. Wells, at your

agency, May 14, 1879, and 30 hand-planters and 3 pieces of plow-stud, weighing 120 pounds, delivered, date not stated, the said articles purporting to have been received by Mr. Wells at Omaha, December 21, and January 20, from G. W. Lininger & Co., I have to request that you transmit to this office the invoices for said articles, to be filed with the said bills of lading, and that you also furnish the duplicates of bills of lading, 61 pounds, 374 pounds, 593 pounds, receipted by you May 14, 1879, and 120 pounds receipted, but not dated; the "originals" already have been presented for settlement, which cannot be effected until the "duplicates" shall have been furnished; also send duplicates of your receipts and weigher's return for 6 sacks of flour delivered by N. W. Wells, May 14, 1879.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. O. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 13, 1879.

SIR: One of the lenses of our field-glass unsoldered and is lost, and the other is loose. It was never first rate, and it is old. I therefore ask that a new one be purchased and forwarded, and also that I have authority to get this old one repaired, at a cost not exceeding \$5. With a herd of over 1,500 head of cattle, spread over a range of 100 miles in circumference, such an instrument is indispensable, and often two are needed.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 13, 1879.

SIR: I ask your authority to purchase an axle-tree, to replace one broken in a wagon. What the cost may be I cannot say, but probably not exceeding \$12.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 16, 1879.

SIR: I take it for granted that the remittance of \$2,000, for second quarter, 1879, gives me authority to purchase agricultural implements, agreeably to letter, July 6, 1878, and therefore I order of Furst & Bradly,

Chicago, two sulky breakers, and I also order some churns, butter-bowls, and ladles; and as there may be some doubt as to whether these can be classed as agricultural implements, I ask your authority for paying for the same, amounting to about \$30.

Quite a number of Indian families are making butter, but we have only two churns (and poor ones), and no ladles; and as for wooden bowls, we have them, but they are too small to take out a common churning.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 16, 1879.

SIR: I respectfully ask your authority to purchase: 1 keg, 25 pounds, blasting powder; 1 keg rifle powder, 25 pounds.

I do not know what the cost would be—possibly, \$40—probably less. Please fix a sum that will cover the cost. We need both sorts, as we have none for butchering for weekly issue. I neglected to ask for it in annual requisition, and we need the blasting sort to get out coal.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 16, 1879.

SIR: I ask your authority to pay for: one pair boy's shoes, school-boy, \$3.50; one dozen awls, 40 cents; 100 fish-hooks, 50 cents—total, \$4.40, to charge to beneficial objects.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 16, 1879.

SIR: I am asking of you a good many things, but as we are using four-mule teams, I must ask you for authority to purchase two 4-horse whips, and two extra stocks, to cost not exceeding \$10.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 26, 1879.

SIR: Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, Colorado, requests authority to purchase in open market certain articles for use at his agency, and to expend not to exceed \$5 in having a field glass repaired, and I have the honor to recommend that the request be granted, the total expenditure not to exceed \$115.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, June 30, 1879.

SIR: Agreeably with the requests contained in your six letters dated the 13th, 16th, and 17th instant, respectively, you have been authorized by the honorable the Secretary of the Interior to expend not to exceed \$110 in the purchase of a field glass, an axletree, two whips and stocks, butter-bowls, ladles, &c., shoes, awls, fishhooks, and two kegs of powder, and \$5 additional in having the field glass now in your possession repaired.

As it is not necessary to write a separate letter requesting authority for the purchase of each article, you will, hereafter, condense your correspondence as much as possible.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 15, 1879.

SIR: Advertisements for proposals for building agency structures have been made, agreeably to your directions, copies of which will be sent you; and I think I ought to ask you whether contractors can have anything from the government here, as the use of the saw mill, for sawing timber, also timber and lime and other natural objects; whether they can have hay, or cut it with our machine; have smith-work done, or use the blacksmith shop; in short, can they have such accommodations? Manifestly, this is an important matter with the contractors, and I wish to know how to answer.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, June 27, 1879.

SIR: In reply to the inquiries contained in your letter of the 15th instant, relating to privileges of contractors who are about to erect agency buildings on your reservation, I have to advise you that the furnishing to them of timber from the reservation, the use of mill in sawing the same, procuring lime and hay or other natural products, the use of agency mowing-machine in cutting the hay, for smith-work done or the use of smith-shop and tools, in fact any materials furnished or facilities afforded them in the prosecution of the work under contract, should be considered in making the contract, or, if not made a part of the contract, thereby reducing the gross sum to be paid for the construction of the buildings, should be charged for at commercial rates, and the proceeds thereof covered into Treasury, keeping separate that portion derived from the sale of natural products of the reservation from the amount arising on account of use of mowing-machine, smith-shops, &c.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 15, 1879.

SIR: Hitherto the appropriation for pay of herder and Indian assistants has been remitted and kept under the head of "fulfilling treaty," &c.; and under sub-head of "subsistence, pay of herders."

Now I note in your statement, May 22, 1879, that you transfer the same to sub-head "beneficial objects," and that you include the balance of \$71.50 that was reported under sub-head of "subsistence, pay of herders," &c., under said sub-head "beneficial objects."

Would it not be desirable to continue the old arrangement, and thus avoid the transfer of funds from one sub-head to another.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, June 26, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, I have to direct that you charge your vouchers for disbursements under the "sub-heads" of appropriations as set forth in tabular statement of funds mailed to you on the 22d ultimo.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

June 15, 1879.

SIR: I beg to call your especial attention to an important need, and which I have failed in the press of affairs to note. This is a thrashing-machine. Of course our 20 acres would not justify the purchase of one; but it will be needed for a larger crop next year, and it is needed badly this year, as the probable yield of 200 bushels will be amply sufficient for next years' seeding. I had fondly hoped to make a better show, but on sod it was impossible. We should have the machine on the ground by September 1, 1879.

The kind I think simplest, cheapest, and best suited, say for 200 acres capacity, is a mounted vibratory one, 8-horse power, made at Battle Creek, Michigan, "Nichols, Shepherd & Co."

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,

June 27, 1879.

SIR: I inclose herewith a letter received from Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, Colorado, dated the 15th instant, in which he reports that about twenty acres of wheat have grown at the new location of his agency, this season, and next year a much larger acreage will be sown; he therefore requests that a thrashing-machine be furnished him, and I have the honor to request that this office be authorized to purchase one, to cost not exceeding \$409, and to ship it to said agency.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

July 1, 1879.

GENTLEMEN: If you will furnish such a thrashing-machine, with power as is named in your contract of August 6, 1878, at the price provided for therein, viz, \$409, you may ship one to White River Agency, Colorado.

Mark "United States Indian Agent," said agency, and deliver to A. B. B. Brinkerhoff, for shipment under the contract of N. W. Wells.

An early shipment is requested.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

Messrs. MARKLEY, ALLING & Co.,
Chicago, Ill.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 16, 1879.

SIR: As we are to move our saw-mill and have a grist-mill, it is of the most utmost importance to be supplied with a steam-gauge for the engine. There are two gauges here, but neither is good for anything, and of course it is extra hazardous to run the engine without. I hope, therefore, you will order one to be purchased and forwarded to this agency, so that it may be had by September 1.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 14, 1879.

SIR: Your letter, dated the 16th ultimo, in which you request to be furnished with a steam-gauge for use upon your engine was received, and you are advised that, before your request can be complied with, you must state the capacity of your boiler and engine, and the size of the gauge required.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO.
June 16, 1879.

SIR: Yours (F. Colorado Miscell W. 2030, '79,) 3d instant, requesting me to ascertain if oats cannot be delivered at this agency for less than \$8.35 per cwt., and salt for less than \$9.90 per cwt. is received, and I answer that I have sent out to various dealers, and believe that oats can be delivered here at a price not exceeding \$6.50 per cwt., and salt at \$7.50 per cwt., probably \$1 less even for oats.

So soon as I have answers you will be advised.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 20, 1879.

SIR: I have received an offer to deliver at this agency 20,000 pounds

oats, at \$4.95 cwt., and 1,500 pounds salt, at \$7. I shall receive other offers, but probably none lower than this for the oats.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 23, 1879.

SIR: Yours of 11th instant (F. Colo. M. 1158, '79) shows the deficiency in my request of 26th ultimo as regards mules, harness, wagon and saddle, and I respond as follows:

I respectfully ask your authority to purchase and pay for:

One double harness, second-hand.....	\$8 00
One wagon, 3-inch Moline	22 00
One double harness, second-hand.....	5 00
One herding saddle.....	20 00
	<hr/> 55 00

The wagon is in better condition than any we have, but not heavy enough for some work; the saddle is nearly new, costing at first, say, \$40, and we are much in need of it.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 23, 1879.

SIR: I have received an offer from James France, Rawlins, Wyo., to deliver at this agency 20,000 pounds oats at \$5.10 per cwt., corn \$5.70 per cwt., and 1,500 pounds salt at \$6.25. Mr. France can be depended upon; some other bidders may not be. Probably \$5.10 for oats is as low a bid as will come from any responsible party, salt certainly is at \$6.25.

If you authorize me to make the purchase, I should like to have liberty to use discretion in respect to the probability of the undertakers to carry out their contract.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: At the opening of proposals to furnish supplies for the Indian service for the current fiscal year, it was found that no bids were received to supply 20,000 pounds of oats and 1,500 pounds of salt for the

White River Agency, Colorado, whereupon this office directed Agent Meeker, of said agency, to ascertain at what price they could be obtained; and I have the honor to state that the agent reports that he can purchase them, delivered at the agency, at \$4.95 per 100 pounds for the former, and \$7 per 100 pounds for the latter, or an aggregate of \$1,095 for the quantities above named, and to respectfully recommend that he be authorized to make such purchase at once, in open market, as the roads during the fall, winter, and early spring are in such condition that it is impossible to transport supplies to said agency.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 11, 1879.

SIR: Acknowledging the receipt of your two letters dated the 23d and one of the 20th ultimo, you are informed that you have been authorized by the honorable Secretary of the Interior to purchase 20,000 pounds of oats and 1,500 pounds of salt, delivered at your agency at not exceeding \$4.95 and \$7 per 100 pounds, respectively; or a total expenditure of \$1,095.

The request contained in one of your letters of the 23d ultimo, that you be granted authority to purchase a wagon, harness, and saddle, is not granted for the reason that it is not desirable to purchase *second-hand* or *wornout* stock or implements for the Indian service.

Three additional wagons have been ordered shipped to your agency, as you were informed in office letter dated the 7th instant.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,

Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 23, 1879.

SIR: In reply to yours of 11th instant (F, Claims, 7820), asking for invoices of breaking-plows 3740, three hand corn-planters, and 3 pieces plow steel, received here May 14, 1879, also for duplicate bills lading, receipt for 6 sacks flour, and the weigher's return, I would say, first, the price for steel and the hand corn-planters included transportation to this agency, and the articles ought not to have appeared on a bill of lading, and therefore the originals and duplicate should be delivered to Mr. Wells, who can collect the freight of Mr. France, if he chooses, and of whom these goods were purchased.

Herewith are inclosed copies of duplicate bills lading, dated May 14, 1879, 60 pounds, 374 pounds, 593 pounds, and 120 pounds; also, duplicate receipt for 6 sacks flour, and the weigher's return for the same, although these were all duly forwarded to your office, and probably by

this time have reached you. At the same time, the originals were sent to Mr. Wells through his agent, Jas. France, Rawlins, Wyo.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 17, 1879.

SIR: On January 30 last, you receipted at Omaha for three corn-planters and one piece of plow-steel weighing 120 pounds, for transportation to the White River Agency. Said articles were purchased by Agent Meeker of Mr. France, *deliverable at the agency*. You were paid for such transportation, in settlement Nos. 8772 and 8776, \$1,336.74; and the amount thereof, viz, \$10.23, will be deducted from your next settlement. You must look to Mr. France for reimbursement.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. W. WELLS,
Schuyler, Nebr.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 23, 1879.

SIR: The three wagons I asked for to give to Indians have arrived, and I am in great difficulty because I am forced to use two of them, and the Indians insist on having new ones, and will not take the second-hand ones.

The case is, week before last, the best wagon we had broke its iron-pipe axletree, and I have asked authority to purchase another axletree, but to get one from Saint Louis will require a month or so. Last week the next best broke down, and requiring hard wood for the tongue, which we have not, a month or so will be required to put this in order. Our next best wagon has had a wheel filled three times, and we expect every day it will give way. Besides, we have a tolerably new wagon, which to-day I ask authority to purchase, but it is too light for any heavy work.

When we go to the old agency it is a great waste of time to return with half loads; and now that haying has commenced, we go from two to five miles up and down the river, and to carry only what our wagons will sustain is a terrible waste of labor and time. The truth is, the stock of wagons here is worn out, and I am obliged to use those sent for the Indians; and though they clamor constantly, I tell them they must wait till the blankets are given out. Thus, in trying to help the Indians, and at the same time being obliged to protect our industrial interest, and to sustain and carry on our operations, a most embarrassing condition of affairs is presented.

I am obliged, therefore, to ask you for two 3½-inch wagons—narrow truck and schuttlers would be best, because specially made for this arid region, as the wood does not shrink. The iron-work should be full, so that when we undertake to haul loads we can put on safely a reason-

able load for four mules—three times more than we can now undertake to transport.

The three Indian wagons are $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch instead of $3\frac{3}{4}$, as advised, but they are heavier than they need, and being wide track, are unhandy. I had asked for $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch, about as heavy as the Indian ponies can well and profitably haul; but they would be glad to take these, and I would be glad to let them have them, but if I do so now, the greater part of our work must stop, and a part of the men might as well be discharged. I ask pardon for writing so much, but my excuse is the difficulty arising from these related circumstances.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 7, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter dated the 23d ultimo, in which you acknowledge the receipt of three wagons which were estimated and purchased for issue to your Indians, and that owing to the wornout condition of those belonging to the agency, you have been compelled to retain the new ones, and requesting that three more be furnished; and you are informed that your request will be complied with, and as you suggest that lighter ones be supplied, I have directed that three-inch skein wagons be shipped.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 23, 1879.

SIR: I have received samples of flour purchased for this agency, with notice of the same; also, articles of agreement of E. A. Hayt and W. W. Wells, for transportation.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, June 27, 1879.

SIR: The list herewith inclosed comprises the articles for which you, or your predecessor, estimated for use, at your agency, during the fiscal

year 1880, and which have not been purchased under contract by this office; and you are advised that the honorable the Secretary of the Interior has granted authority for you to expend not to exceed \$243.60 in purchasing them, in open market.

When the blanks, upon which to make estimates of goods and supplies for said fiscal year, were forwarded by this office, advice was given that every article which would be required at your agency should be estimated for, thereby avoiding any necessity for exigency or open market purchases. In view of this fact you are now informed that all such transactions will hereafter be strictly prohibited, except in case where an *unforeseen exigency* can be shown to exist, of which this office will be the sole judge. Any violation of this order will subject the agent to a charge against his *official bond* of the amount so expended.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

June 30, 1879.

SIR: I ask your authority to pay for 146 pounds $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch rope, amounting to \$28.47. Said rope was purchased in exigency, as we were entirely destitute, and rope had to be in supply for the usual summer round up and branding of cattle, and besides for breaking cows for use by the Indians. I had your authority July 6, 1878, to purchase, among other things, agricultural implements, under head of removal of the Utes, and rope would properly be included; but this present use is in the herding or cattle interest, and therefore your authority for the purchase is asked.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
July 12, 1879.

SIR: Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, Colorado, under date of the 30th ultimo, reports having purchased under an exigency 146 pounds of rope, for use in "rounding up" his cattle for branding, &c., at a cost of \$28.47, and requests that his action be approved, which I have the honor to recommend.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 21, 1879.

SIR: The honorable the Secretary of the Interior has approved your action in purchasing, under an exigency, 146 pounds of rope at a cost of \$28.47, in accordance with the request contained in your letter dated the 30th ultimo.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 2, 1879.

SIR: I am notified that N. W. Wells will deliver at this agency 100,000 pounds flour. Now, owing to the absence of the Indians from the reservation for several months, I have now on hand about 680 sacks of 100 pounds each, and as we are to have a grist-mill, I should prefer having half of the coming flour withheld and corn sent instead, and we can grind it. I am sure such a division will suit the Indians better. When I asked for the flour I did not expect a grist-mill. I do not know as the change can be made, but, if it can be, I shall like it much better.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 14, 1879.

SIR: Acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated the 2d instant, in which you ask that the 100,000 pounds of flour purchased for your agency, for the current fiscal year, be not furnished in full, but that only one-half be supplied, and in lieu of the remainder corn be furnished, you are advised that Mr. Wells, contractor for said quantity of flour, has the full quantity thereof at Rawlins, and that inspection and shipment has been ordered; your request therefore cannot be complied with.

As you were notified on May 27 last that authority had been granted for the purchase of a grist-mill, you should have foreseen your wants previous to the date of your said letter.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: I inclose, herewith, proposals of Messrs. Clements, Leadville, Colorado, for constructing agency buildings. They are so indefinite that I cannot see how they can form more than a basis, and as I do not know whether it was necessary the contract should be closed *before* the 1st of July, 1878, and as I did not know whether there were \$6,000 or \$4,000 available, since \$2,000 of the removal fund was appropriated last quarter, and after you had stated there was only \$6,000, I could not see my way to enter into any contract, and, therefore, I submit the proposals, the only ones received, for your action.

If the undertaking is still to be considered as open, I have to say that the sum of \$6,000 is not sufficient for constructing the buildings, and that this is the reason why no more bids were received. The Messrs. Clements are acquainted with this country, and it will be seen that in effect this bid considerably exceeds the \$6,000.

The question remaining with me is, whether, if anything can now be done, a part of the building may not be constructed; say, the warehouse and school-house, letting the agent get along without; or at least the school-house, costing \$2,000. If education is to be entered upon with any reasonable chances of success, there must be a suitable building, both to secure needed conveniences, and to command the respect of the Indians, which the log house wholly fails to accomplish.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 8, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of July 7 last, inclosing the bid of Messrs. Clements for the erection of an agent's house, school-house and warehouse at your agency, which seems to be the only one received under your advertisement of May 24 last, together with plans and specifications of the said buildings.

The price proposed by the said persons for the construction of the buildings named is \$5,947, provided all the material required can be had at the agency; but if the shingles and flooring have to be hauled from the railroad, then the price will be \$1,200 more or a total of \$7,147.

In reply you are authorized to enter into contract with the parties named for the buildings in question for the sum of \$5,947, provided all the materials can be had at the agency, but if the flooring and shingles have to be furnished and hauled from the railroad by the contractors, then the price to be \$7,147, as per their bid.

If you cannot furnish the shingles and flooring at the agency, but can furnish one or the other, then the value of the article so provided should be deducted from the amount of the bid.

Great care should be taken in the execution of the contract to see that it is made out in accordance with the instructions herein inclosed, which will save time and trouble in its approval by the department. A good and sufficient bond, with two or more sureties for the faithful

performance of the same will be required. (See instructions referred to.)

I return the papers inclosed with your letter.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 16, 1879.

SIR: In regard to purchasing grist-mill of Todd & Co., Saint Louis, I find it hardly practicable to do the business with them.

First, they insist that the man performing the skilled labor, for which you have appropriated \$400, must have \$3 a day from the time he starts, his ticket purchased at Saint Louis, and his board paid while at work, and his return ticket bought, and all this.

Second, Messrs. Todd say that, as they have had "some experience in settling bills for Indian agencies, we would require you to appoint some agent here, *with the money in hand*, to receive the goods, and pay upon shipment of the same."

Now, it seems to me that to receipt and pay for goods in this way will scarcely be allowed by you, and as to advancing passage-money to somebody, and becoming liable for an indefinite amount of money for wages and expenses, is considerably out of the way of common business prudence.

I would therefore suggest that your agent purchase a mill in Chicago, a place where, in my experience, one is more likely to be satisfied than in Saint Louis.

As I am going out to get the hogs you have authorized me to buy, in about a week, I think I can get a millwright at Greely or Denver, and within the amount limited; also, I could go to Chicago and get the mill itself, and thus forward the business rapidly.

Please send answer to this by telegraph to Rawlins, and it will reach me about the time it arrives at that place.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 23, 1879.

To N. C. MEEKER, *Rawlins*:

I will obtain the machinery and have it shipped to your agency. You must take a decided stand with your Indians, to prevent future depreciations.

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 21, 1879.

SIR: In making issue of supplies, agreeably to the new requirements, Form 3, &c., it will be most decidedly economical to have paper sacks of different sizes, and therefore I would ask you for 2,500 14-pound paper bags; 2,500 50-pound paper bags.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 30, 1879.

SIR: You will please include 4,000 paper sacks of the 14-pound size for the White River Agency, Colorado. F. Bohle, of No. 8 South Main street, Saint Louis, will inspect the sacks, to whom you will forward the samples upon which the contract of P. H. Kelly was awarded.

Early shipment should be ordered. Advise Mr. Kelly, at Saint Paul, to whom the shipping directions should be sent, with orders to inform Mr. Bohle where the sacks can be found, and when they will be ready for inspection.

In reply to the inquiry contained in your letter of the 25th instant, you are informed that 50 suits of police uniform, including hats, are required for the White River Agency.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

F. D. KARR,
No. 65 Wooster Street, New York City.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
July 23, 1879.

SIR: Under date of the 4th instant, Agent Meeker, of White River Agency, Colorado, reports that, owing to the increased number of cattle in the herd belonging to his agency, and the location of large herds belonging to private individuals near his reservation, it is necessary that additional facilities be furnished him for herding and taking care of his cattle; he therefore asks for authority to purchase two horses for that purpose, the cost not to exceed \$80 each, which I have the honor to recommend.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 26, 1879.

SIR: Acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated the 4th instant,

you are advised that so much of your request therein contained as relates to the purchase of two horses for herding purposes has been granted by the honorable Secretary of the Interior, the price to be paid not to exceed \$80 each.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 11, 1879.

SIR: Yours of July 14 (Colo. M. 1285. '79) received. The engine is about 20-horse power, the boiler 10 feet long, 3 feet diameter, and has 35 flues. The gauge formerly asked was made in Chicago by Chicago Steam Gauge Company, is 7 inches in diameter, and made to indicate a pressure of 200 pounds to the square inch. I hope the gauge may with certainty be supplied.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 13, 1879.

SIR: When in Denver I attempted to get our old field-glass repaired, but no one could do the work, and, beside, it was apparent that it is in such general bad order as scarcely worth the trouble, and therefore I bought two new field-glasses for \$30. You had authorized me to buy one new one and to get the old repaired (June 30, p. Colo. M. 1286, 1287, 1284, 1290, 1265, 1268. I 1435, 1879).

With such a large herd of cattle in care two glasses are often needed. More could be used many times, as several men are out at a time, and the range covers an area equal to a small State, and therefore I ask you to authorize this transaction.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
August 23, 1879.

SIR: On the 27th of June last the department authorized Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, Colorado, to purchase a field-glass and to have one repaired.

I herewith inclose two letters from said agent, dated respectively the 11th and 13th instant, in the former of which he reports that he was unable to have the glass repaired, and thereupon purchased two, at a cost of \$30, which he asks to be approved, and in the other requesting to be supplied with a steam-gauge for use on the boiler in his mill; and I have honor to recommend that the agent's action in purchasing the two glasses be approved, and that this office be authorized to purchase the gauge at the lowest attainable rates and ship it to said agency.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington D. C., September 1, 1879.

SIR: Replying to your two letters of the 13th and 11th ultimo, in the former of which you report an exigency purchase of two field-glasses for use of your herders on cattle range, at an expense of \$30, and asking the approval thereof, and in the letter in response to office letter of July 14 last giving dimensions of the engine, boiler, and flues at your agency, to enable this office to act intelligently in purchasing a new steam-gauge therefor, you are advised that the honorable Secretary of the Interior has approved the purchase of the field-glasses.

The steam-gauge has been ordered by this office.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent White River Agency, Colorado.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 13, 1879.

SIR: I send you by this mail a sample of our wheat crop, now harvested in good order, and in shock, there being 20 acres agency and 3 acres of the Indians. The quality would sell for first-class seed-wheat in the best farming community. The total yield will be from 150 to 200 bushels, although on sod. The greater portion should be used for seed next year, when I shall certainly have 75 acres of well-rotted sod, on which the yield should be from 25 to 40 bushels per acre, so rich is the soil. Perhaps I may have even 120 acres mellow ground.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, August 20, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of an account in favor of the Denver Pacific

Railroad Company for transportation furnished you from Cheyenne to Denver and return, \$14; and before any action will be taken thereon with a view to settlement, I wish to be informed upon what business you went to said city, and under what authority the trip was made.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 25, 1879.

SIR: In regard to circular No. 31, July 12, 1878, I have to say that I was awaiting your decision as to whether any agency buildings would be erected this year. The warehouse as proposed would have furnished storage for roots and for seed grain.

My presenting you with plans for cellar and granary would depend, therefore, on whether the buildings are to be constructed. For the present year I shall be obliged to construct a cellar for storage of roots and vegetables; the grain we can care for with little trouble.

As to garden seeds generally, I am now saving them, and I intend to save, hereafter, all that is possible, so that few need be bought, and the Indians shall lay by potatoes for seed.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 15, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 25th ultimo, in response to circular letter from this office, No. 31, relative to granary and root cellar, you are referred to authority contained in my letter of the 8th instant empowering you to enter into contract for the erection of agency buildings at your agency.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent White River Agency, Colorado.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
White River Agency, Colorado, August 25, 1879.

SIR: Naturally, our harnesses are giving way, and must be repaired, and as we have an employé who can do the work, I ask an appropriation for this object, the items being: 1 saddler's horse, 1 gauge-knife, 1 round ditto, 3 medium punches, 1 paper harness needles, 1 ditto awls,

2 pounds wax, 2 ditto copperas, 4 sides harness leather, 6 dozen 1½-inch double buckles, 3 do. ¾ double buckles; not exceeding a cost of \$50. I also ask appropriation for 50 pounds blue vitriol, needed for soaking seed wheat to prevent smut, \$5. I also ask appropriation for two stubble-breakers, to attach to sulky breaker for old ground, \$30. Total, \$85.

I wrote that the sulky breakers have arrived; that one has been in use during the past week, plowing two acres a day, with three mules. Said breakers were billed as rigged for four mules, but they came rigged for three, and we shall try to adapt them to four, so tough is the sod. This amount of 2 acres a day is nearly double what we have been able to plow with ordinary breaker and four mules, while the work is better done; and beside the time of one man as driver is saved; so that the saving of a sulky breaker is nearly \$5 a day. Now, with the stubble bottom to attach, we can prepare the 70 acres of wheat ground for next year at a saving equally great.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 12, 1879.

SIR: Referring to your letter of the 25th ultimo, asking authority to make certain necessary purchases, viz, one saddle-horse and a supply of tools and material for repairs to harness, 50 pounds blue vitriol, and two stubble-breakers, at a total cost of \$85, you are advised that department authority has been granted for the expenditure of the sum named for the articles mentioned.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 31, 1879.

SIR: I think it my duty to ask you for 10,000 pounds of oats, in addition to the 20,000 pounds now arriving. We are running 6 mules to ploughs, expecting to break 50 acres this fall for sowing oats next spring, and for this we shall need for the seed 3,000 pounds. Besides, I expect to move the sawmill, to fence 200 acres, and there is a good deal other work; so that we shall need this grain. I can buy the grain at \$5 per cwt., delivered here, and a part will be Colorado oats, exactly what we want for seed, being worth much more than any other. Our plows work well, and everything is in proper condition for profitable work.

I also ask authority to purchase three or four sheets of zinc for making two sinks, to cost not exceeding \$5; also, two coal-scuttles, cost not exceeding \$2.50.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
September 10, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of a letter from Agent Meeker, of the White River Agency, Colo., under date 31st ultimo, reporting that he will need to carry him through the current fiscal year an additional supply of oats, not only for feed, but seed. The agent has on hand a large amount of work, that will tax to their utmost his agency animals, breaking land, hauling logs, rails for fencing 200 acres, and other work about the agency. He also reports as required three or four sheets of zinc and two coal-scuttles. I have the honor to recommend that he be authorized to buy, in open market, 10,000 pounds of oats, the zinc, and coal-scuttles, the total expenditure not to exceed \$500.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 17, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 31st ultimo, asking that you be furnished with 10,000 pounds of oats in addition to the 20,000 pounds now arriving at your agency, stating you will need fully 30,000 pounds for feed and seed to carry you through the year, owing to the increased acreage of land to be prepared for cultivation this fall and the ensuing spring, fencing 200 acres, and other farming operations and agency work requiring the constant employment of your teams, you are advised that the honorable Secretary of the Interior has granted you authority to purchase, in open market, 10,000 pounds of oats at the lowest attainable rates. You state that you can buy them, delivered at the agency, at \$5 per 100 pounds. It is believed that you should be able to obtain them at a less figure than that.

The four sheets of zinc and two coal-scuttles, mentioned in your letter, you are authorized to purchase. The total expenditures under this authority not to exceed \$500.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 1, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your estimate of funds required for the service in the White River Agency during the second and third quarters, 1879.

In compliance with said estimate, I have this day caused a requisition to issue for the sum of \$6,402.10, to be placed to your credit with the First National Bank of Denver, Colo., from the appropriations and for the objects designated in the tabular statement herewith; for the

proper care and disposition of which sum you will be held to account under your bond.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKE,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado,
(via Rawlins, Wyo.)

WHITE RIVER AGENCY,
September 6, 1879.

SIR: I have received this year, for this agency, 5,973 pounds sugar, 2,927 pounds coffee, against 7,621 pounds sugar last year, and 3,267 pounds coffee last year. My request this year was 7,500 pounds sugar and 3,000 pounds coffee. Of the supply of last year, the sugar just held out; the coffee was exhausted for some time.

It is highly probable that a much greater number of Indians will draw rations the coming year than they drew the last year, because they are to be forced, I suppose, to stay on their reservation. Therefore, it seems to me that you should send in addition 1,000 pounds coffee and 3,000 pounds sugar.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 18, 1879.

SIR: On May 14 last you issued to H. W. Nieman a certified receipt and weigher's return for 2,073 pounds of oats purchased from him, in open market, at 70 cents per 100 pounds, upon which payment was made by the Treasury Department about the 1st ultimo; and on the 20th of June you paid the same account, and received a receipt therefor, which disbursement you charge in your accounts for the second quarter. Mr. Nieman has been instructed to deposit to the credit of the United States \$14.51, and if he does not comply with the said instructions, the amount named will be charged against you.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT, *Commissioner.*

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 22, 1879.

SIR: It is noticed that you forward your weekly supply-reports in duplicate. You are advised that but one copy is required in this office.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.
(Fenton.)

CHEYENNE, WYO., *October 16, 1879.*
 COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

Will arrive at Denver to-morrow ; have funds then placed to my credit for fourth quarters.

POLLOCK, *Inspector.*

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS INDIAN AGENCY, COLO.,
November 3, 1879.
 COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

How shall the White River Utes be subsisted while at this agency ; also, others during the sitting of the proposed commissioner at this place ?

STANLEY, *Agent.*

DENVER, COLO., *November 4, 1879.*

SIR : In compliance with your instructions of October 13, and other dates, I have been obliged to incur necessary expenses for transportation for food for escort and captives, for pay of couriers, &c. Some small sums I have paid myself ; other amounts remain due and unpaid, and I am not informed in what manner I shall settle the expenses of these proceedings. I have signed a voucher for the fare of the late captives from Cimarron to Alamosa, as the stage company refuses to carry them without my guaranteeing the fare, and the amount exceeded my ability to pay ; and I have no doubt the necessity of further expenses will occur. I would be pleased, therefore, to be advised when and in what manner the expenses should be paid.

I may mention that I am under bonds to the Post-Office Department, but perhaps certified vouchers will do as well as if a sum of money was placed to my credit in some national bank.

Please favor me with a reply, if convenient, by telegraph, to Los Pinos, via Lake City, as those persons to whom I am indebted will wish to receive their money.

For the services rendered by Mr. J. J. Cline, for himself and his team, in accompanying me to the hostile camp and bringing back the captives, in all ten days' service, he should be well paid, and I would recommend the sum of \$250 to be paid him, although I have made no bargain, and he would be satisfied with less.

I am, very respectfully,

CHARLES ADAMS,
Special Agent.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
 OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington November 12, 1879.

SIR : Acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated the 4th instant, in reference to the payment of expenses incurred in your mis-

sion to the Ute Indians, you are advised that certified vouchers in duplicate must be issued for all expenses thus incurred and not paid by you. I have this day mailed to your address blanks upon which vouchers can be issued, upon which must appear a certificate of the nature of the service rendered or articles furnished, and be given to the claimant to be forwarded to this office for settlement.

For the service of J. J. Cline, with team, in accompanying you to the hostile camp and returning with the released captives, you can issue him a voucher for the amount you deem just and equitable. For expenses incurred and paid by yourself, please take vouchers to be attached to your account to be rendered when your services have been completed.

In making your certificate upon vouchers issued, be particular to state that they are issued *in duplicate*.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

CHARLES ADAMS,
Los Pinos Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
December 30, 1878.

SIR: I send herewith sample of the 1,000 sacks of flour received at this agency from N. W. Wells, Schuyler, Nebr. The quality is so much better than the lots previously furnished, as to put the Indians in good temper. If they were taught to make raised bread, as I mean they shall be at the new agency, the flour would be still more satisfactory; and yet I think a higher grade would be more profitable, because the waste of any kind of bread made from it would be less.

I also send a sample of the sacks in which all this flour came. The fabric is heavy and strong, and when the sacks are emptied, the material is valuable. No double sacking is required, as with ordinary sacks, and so far as this agency, at least, is concerned, such sacks should be the standard.

Respectfully yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
December 30, 1878.

SIR: I have received one copy "Gurnsey's Obstetrics" in response to my request, and the same can be but of great service in this remote region, where there is no regular physician nor any treatise of the kind; and I am obliged, and especially so, that the work is of the homeopathic school.

Respectfully yours,

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Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington. D. C.

(A.—Colorado—M—2413. 1878.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
January 20, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 2d ultimo, stating that some of the Indians at your agency are disposed to turn their attention to agriculture, and desire to be furnished with the necessary implements, also recommending as an inducement to them that assistance be rendered by issuing wagons, harness, and ploughs, and suggesting the propriety of exchanging such articles with the Indians for ponies, of which they have entirely too many.

In reply, I have to say that the plan proposed by you of taking ponies in lieu of wagons, &c., is not deemed feasible, as the ponies would only be a source of expense to the government for feed and care. If, however, as stated, the Indians have ponies which they are willing to dispose of, it is suggested that they sell the same under your supervision and place the funds received therefor in your hands as miscellaneous receipts, to be used in the purchase of necessary wagons, &c., in accordance with the plan set forth in office circular of January 24, 1877. (Copy herewith inclosed.)

If the above suggestion can be carried out, you can dispose of the ponies and take up the amount of funds received therefor, and upon the receipt of your report showing the transaction, you will be authorized to issue to the Indians entitled the articles needed by them if you have them on hand, and failing that, you should submit an estimate for the articles required, to be paid from the funds received from sale of ponies to the extent of said funds, the balance, if any excess is approved, will be paid from other funds.

The above plan should be urged upon the Indians if any demand is found for ponies, but if none exists and you are satisfied the Indians will make good use of the articles, authority for the direct issue of wagons, &c., to them may be obtained upon your laying all the facts of the case before the office.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 13, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, during the fourth quarter of 1878, I have collected the sum \$16.50 on account of miscellaneous receipts, which added to the amount previously reported (\$10.50) makes a total on hand of seventy-seven dollars.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

sion to the Ute Indians, you are advised that certified vouchers in duplicate must be issued for all expenses thus incurred and not paid by you. I have this day mailed to your address blanks upon which vouchers can be issued, upon which must appear a certificate of the nature of the service rendered or articles furnished, and be given to the claimant to be forwarded to this office for settlement.

For the service of J. J. Cline, with team, in accompanying you to the hostile camp and returning with the released captives, you can issue him a voucher for the amount you deem just and equitable. For expenses incurred and paid by yourself, please take vouchers to be attached to your account to be rendered when your services have been completed.

In making your certificate upon vouchers issued, be particular to state that they are issued *in duplicate*.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

CHARLES ADAMS,
Los Pinos Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO.
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I also send a sample of the sacks in which all this flour came. The fabric is heavy and strong, and when the sacks are emptied, the material is valuable. No double sacking is required, as with ordinary sacks, and so far as this agency, at least, is concerned, such sacks should be the standard.

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Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington.

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Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington. D. C.

(A.—Colorado—M—2413. 1878.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
January 20, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 2d ultimo, stating that some of the Indians at your agency are disposed to turn their attention to agriculture, and desire to be furnished with the necessary implements, also recommending as an inducement to them that assistance be rendered by issuing wagons, harness, and ploughs, and suggesting the propriety of exchanging such articles with the Indians for ponies, of which they have entirely too many.

In reply, I have to say that the plan proposed by you of taking ponies in lieu of wagons, &c., is not deemed feasible, as the ponies would only be a source of expense to the government for feed and care. If, however, as stated, the Indians have ponies which they are willing to dispose of, it is suggested that they sell the same under your supervision and place the funds received therefor in your hands as miscellaneous receipts, to be used in the purchase of necessary wagons, &c., in accordance with the plan set forth in office circular of January 24, 1877. (Copy herewith inclosed.)

If the above suggestion can be carried out, you can dispose of the ponies and take up the amount of funds received therefor, and upon the receipt of your report showing the transaction, you will be authorized to issue to the Indians entitled the articles needed by them if you have them on hand, and failing that, you should submit an estimate for the articles required, to be paid from the funds received from sale of ponies to the extent of said funds, the balance, if any excess is approved, will be paid from other funds.

The above plan should be urged upon the Indians if any demand is found for ponies, but if none exists and you are satisfied the Indians will make good use of the articles, authority for the direct issue of wagons, &c., to them may be obtained upon your laying all the facts of the case before the office.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
*Commissioner.*N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
*United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.*WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
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For the service of J. J. Cline, with team, in accompanying you to the hostile camp and returning with the released captives, you can issue him a voucher for the amount you deem just and equitable. For expenses incurred and paid by yourself, please take vouchers to be attached to your account to be rendered when your services have been completed.

In making your certificate upon vouchers issued, be particular to state that they are issued *in duplicate*.

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(A.—Colorado—M—2413. 1878.)

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(A.—Colorado—M—2413. 1878.)

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E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

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N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 15, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to request that the action of General Edward Hatch, chairman of the commission, in employing N. M. Curtis and Colonel Pfeiffer, at a compensation of \$150 and \$225 per month, respectively, for the purpose of collecting the Utes for the payment of their annuities and conducting the negotiations for the sale of their reservation, be approved.

It is proper for me to remark that the services of these persons are reported to me as having been particularly valuable to the commission.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 18, 1879.

SIR: Referring to department communication of the 15th instant approving the employment by General Edward Hatch, chairman Ute commission, of N. M. Curtis, at a salary of \$150 per month, to assist in collecting the Utes together for the purpose of receiving their annuities, &c., I have now the honor to request that L. M. Kelley, United States Indian agent, Los Pinos Agency, Colorado, be authorized to continue the service of Mr. Curtis at the same rate of compensation, viz, \$150 per month, and also to act as interpreter, his services to terminate upon the arrival at their reservation of the Utes now visiting this city. The amount allowed for employes at the Los Pinos Agency for the present fiscal year is \$5,520.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

(A. Colorado, I, 108—79.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
January 16, 1879.

SIR: I transmit herewith copy of department letter of the 15th instant, approving your action in the employment of N. M. Curtis and Colonel Pfeiffer, at \$150 and \$225 dollars per month, respectively, for the purpose of collecting the Utes to receive their annuities, &c. Copy of this approval should be filed with your vouchers for this expenditure.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

EDWARD HATCH,
Colonel, U. S. A., Chairman Ute Commission, present.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 20, 1879.

SIR: I shall be obliged if you will correct an error in abstract D, third quarter, 1878, in the amount of tobacco issued during said quarter, as the amount issued was 149½ pounds, instead of 148½ pounds shown by an addition of the figures in the abstract. Also please correct the return of property for said third quarter, so as to make the amount of tobacco on hand at close of the quarter 265½ instead of 266½ pounds.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
January 25, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a letter from N. C. Meeker, United States Indian agent at the White River Agency, Colorado, in regard to the employment of John S. Titcomb, civil engineer, for the purpose of laying out an irrigating canal at said agency. I also inclose two descriptive statements which show that Mr. Titcomb's services began on July 19, and terminated on August 13, 1878, making twenty five days, at a compensation of \$7 per day, and involving an expenditure of \$175.

In view of the facts set forth by the agent, I have the honor to recommend that his action in the employment of John S. Titcomb as civil engineer for the time indicated be approved, and the expenditure (\$175) allowed, payment for which is provided in "Act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879, and for other purposes": "To enable the Secretary of the Interior to remove the Ute Indians from the present reservation in White River, Colorado, to a more suitable location where agriculture can be pursued and the erection of suitable buildings for such new location, ten thousand dollars."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

(A. Colorado, I—226—79. M—1371—78. M—1676—78.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
February 3, 1879.

SIR: The employment of John S. Titcomb as civil engineer from July 19, to August 13, 1878, inclusive, 25 days, in laying out an irrigating canal at Powell's Bottom, the new location for the White River Agency, at a compensation of \$7 per day, amounting to the sum of \$175, is hereby approved.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

NATHAN C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
January 27, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you by this day's mail my accounts for the fourth quarter, which, I think, will be found complete, with the exception of two vouchers which I retain because they receipt in full for work done on the irrigating ditch, and so made out because I had every reason to suppose that the balance required would be forwarded during the quarter.

The payments by check were on account to N. M. Curtis, November 30, 1878, \$50 (amount still due him, \$175.20); to William Lithgow, November 23, 1878, \$383.33 (amount still due him, \$431.50). This part of the accounts being unsettled, I await your direction in the matter.

Respectfully yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A. Colorado, M—2020—1878.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
February 5, 1879.

SIR: Replying to your letter dated October 21, 1878, I have to say that annuity goods should be issued only to the Indians belonging to your agency, and in all cases the issue should be made in accordance with section 2100 of the Revised Statutes.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency.

(A.—Colorado—M—474. 1879. M—476. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
March 8, 1879.

SIR: The appointment and discharge of the following employes at the White River Agency, Colorado, recommended in your communication of the 24th ultimo, are hereby approved.

APPOINTED.

Ungarounse, assistant herder, with horse, February 14, 1878, \$1.50 per day.

Pahtats, assistant herder, with horse, February 14, 1878, \$1.50 per day.

DISCHARGED.

Ungarounse, assistant herder, with horse, February 19, 1879.

Pahtats, assistant herder, with horse, February 19, 1879.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
*Commissioner.*N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
*United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.*UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 17, 1879.

SIR: I have now not less than twelve Indians regularly at work on the farm, and it is likely that the number will be considerably increased. They are engaged in fencing, in grubbing a large bottom for potato ground, in clearing off meadow ground of brush and other obstructions, &c., and I am something at a loss from what fund to pay them. However, for the work done in this quarter I think I can draw on the incidental fund. I hope this will meet your approval, but at any rate I wish I may have a special fund provided for this object.

Respectfully yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
*Indian Agent.*Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A.—Colorado—M—508-511-610. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
March 28, 1879.

SIR: Your report of irregular employes (Indian) for the month of February last, involving an expenditure of \$30.50, is hereby approved.

Referring to your letter of the 17th instant, wherein you report having twelve Indians regularly employed on the farm, &c., and requesting that a special fund be provided from which these Indians may be paid, you are directed to report at the end of each month the Indians employed, the work in which they have been engaged, the rate of compensation paid (which should not exceed \$15 per month), and the total amount paid each one. A reasonable amount of such service will receive the approval of this office, and funds will be sent to you for the payment of same.

In submitting your estimate of funds you will be particular to state the amount required for the payment of these irregular Indian employes.

In this connection your attention is called to office circulars Nos. 10 and 12, relative to the employment of Indians.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
*Commissioner.*N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 17, 1879.

SIR: One of our herding horses is a mare and she is not as serviceable for our use as she should be. I have opportunity to trade her with one of the employés, Joseph Callow, or with an Indian for a horse, even, and as it would be advantageous to the service to do so I ask your authority for this transaction.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A—Colorado—M—608. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
March 31, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your communication of the 17th instant, requesting authority to trade one of the agency mares with one of the employés or with an Indian for a horse. In reply, I have to say that there is no statute authorizing such an exchange of government property, and, therefore, the transaction is inadmissible.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 17, 1879.

SIR: I have but a small quantity of soap on hand, and as the Indians do not all take a fancy to soap, I would prefer to issue it only as called for, if this has your approval.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A—Colorado—M—630. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
April 7, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your communication of the 17th ultimo, stating that the Indians do not seem to care for soap, and asking that you be permitted to issue it only when it is asked for, I have to say that this of-

vice sees no objection to such action on your part, but the use of soap should be encouraged for its civilizing influence.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 24, 1879.

SIR: In response to "remarks on my accounts" I have to say, as follows:

The disbursements of fractional second quarter, 1878, vouchers 2 and 3, 12. That this expense was incurred in taking ex-Agent Danforth to the railroad, Bear River, was unfordable, hence the ferriage, which, however, was on the return. The delay at Rawlins was a necessity, because the mules had been a long time without any grain, the weather was and had been stormy, and the mules could not under the circumstances immediately return.

Voucher No. 4, \$129.38. So far and so soon as possible subvouchers will be obtained and forwarded, and I can say now that the reason why I staid at Rawlins two and a half days was because there was a snow-storm, and no teams would start on the journey.

Property returns fractional second quarter, 1878: Two bead planes, not taken up from receipt to Danforth, will be taken up first quarter, 1879; also one shovel.

Abstract D, vouchers 1, 2, and 4 to No. 8: Number of Indians to whom supplies were issued should be as follows: Voucher No. 1, 192; No. 2, 168; No. 4, 176; No. 5, 168; No. 6, 80; No. 7, 68; No. 8, 52. The reason why these numbers had not been given was because there was no requirement on the vouchers to this end. However, these numbers did always appear in the weekly supply reports, and, in absence of other directions, so far as seen, this was supposed enough.

Voucher 7: The correct date is June 19, 1878. May 19 is an error.

Abstract D, vouchers 1 to 13, inclusive, "number of Indians not stated." The report now is for vouchers No. 1, 32; No. 2, 44; No. 3, 32; No. 4, 92; No. 5, subsistence to three chiefs to Uncompahgre (as per order commission); No. 6, 612; No. 7, 468; No. 8, 468; No. 9, 476; No. 10, 452; No. 11, 572; No. 12, 764; No. 13, 772.

Abstract D, voucher 1, third quarter, "agent's certificate not signed"; shall be obliged for its return, that it may be signed.

Pay-roll disbursements, voucher 15, third quarter, 1878. The occasion of the Sunday work of Crepe and Quitum was that of going to and coming from work between the agency and Powell Valley while our arrangements were incomplete and accommodations wholly insufficient. The discrepancy of reporting at 50 cents per day and afterwards at \$15 per month, arose from the idea, at that time, that they meant the same. Other strictures will be responded to hereafter, with such vouchers as cannot now be obtained.

Medical returns.—The rubber syringe was accidentally left off, and will appear on next property returns.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

UTE INDIANS IN COLORADO.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 24, 1879.

SIR: Your circular No. 27, as to the appointment of relatives, is received, and shall be shortly regarded.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
March 24, 1879.

SIR: Last week we had about ten Indians at work grubbing bottom-lands and other work. They are somewhat irregular, but the weather was rather stormy. On Friday afternoon there were seventeen, including Douglas, engaged in grubbing, altogether. They work well.

In consequence of the irregularity, I have thought it best to have them paid at the rate of 50 cents a day, except, perhaps, Douglas, who has \$15 a month.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLODADO,
March 31, 1879.

SIR: You should find inclosed vouchers 3 and 6, fourth quarter, 1878, for work performed as stated therein. The payment for the work was only in part; the remainder is to be paid as soon as remittances are received.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
April 7, 1879.

SIR: In this quarterly report I have to say the health of the Indians has not been so good as hitherto and there have been some deaths, while some have recovered from pneumonia, though the tendency now seems toward consumption. A serious fighting encounter is likely to have a fatal termination, as the man was shot through the hips. A detailed account was sent you at the time.

Four of the employés have resigned, three to work farms of their own; one is to return after attending to business. The cost of living—much

greater than elsewhere—the want of accommodation, and the lack of society contribute to make the position for first-class laborers far from being attractive. Other men have been sent for to fill their places.

The work has been almost wholly directed to raising as large a farm-crop as possible this the first year of preparation of the ground. Eighty acres have been substantially fenced with cedar posts, a heavy pole on top and two strings of barbed wire below. Twenty acres of wheat is now up and growing. Twenty acres of new bottom land, intended for potatoes, is partly cleared mostly done by Indian labor. A boom 300 feet long has been built for holding the saw logs to be floated down next June.

Something over thirty Indians have been at work, but the average of steady laborers is from twelve to fifteen. These are induced to work by the influence of Douglas their chief. They are his retainers, and they are more subject to him than they would be if they were slaves. He takes their rations and provides regular meals. Another chief, Johnson, boards some of them, and they get along well, considering the great need of horses, stoves, and cooking furniture. The remedy for this condition is to provide small allotments of land, houses, &c., for each working Indian, whereby he will have a home of his own, and thus become independent of his chief, by which means this species of a feudal system will be broken up and destroyed. Of course time and a well-defined system are required. The progress thus far is decidedly encouraging, particularly when it is remembered that these Indians never would work before. All the time difficulties arise; in fact, the history of every day is the history of difficulties.

I had certainly expected that by this time a response would have been received in regard to the plans I sent you of agency buildings for the new location, and particularly for school accommodations. All the work is done in Powell Valley, 18 miles below; rations are issued here, and the school is kept in the dwelling of the teacher, which is the best to be obtained. All the Indians are in Powell, and I am there myself five days in the week. The houses there are a blacksmith-shop, one for the employes and one for myself, all of logs, with dirt roofs; two of them removed from this location.

A young girl was taken by the teacher last summer and kept till recently; she was well cared for, slept with the teacher, was dressed as well as any white girl, and she made fine progress. Then her father took her away. He had no wife of his own, but his son married and he lived with her, and the little school girl was required to carry wood and water. I could not get her back. The two remaining boys belong, one to Douglas, and one to Lewerick, a chief of the faction opposed to Douglas, and they will probably stay, so as to learn English and so as to represent the two adverse parties. If we had accommodation in Powell, a fair number could be had; but the prospect of having a child here is not brilliant, for it looks as if when a great deal is done for them, and as if when they improve fast and become greatly attached to the school, an inducement is presented for taking them away, because we supposed to be more useful, or else a fear is felt they will not be like themselves.

It seems to me that work goes before education, and that only the man can have an idea of the use of schooling. A savage has no notion of the value of knowing many things. Besides, the family has no discipline, and the children are neither the heirs nor the masters of it. The only discipline exercised in this agency is when men to work day after day; and this on the penalty of with-

holding extra rations. This, in fact, is equivalent to "compulsory education," and it is the only power that can be made to operate. In other words, with plenty of coffee and sugar and dried peaches I can lead them forward to civilization. The agency herd has been rounded up and found in good condition. The labor required in such work, and in butchering, is vastly increased by the thousands of Indian horses occupying the range around the locality when the Indians require beef. For instance, the Indians are encamped in Powell Valley with their horses and although this range should be occupied by cattle none are found nearer than eight miles, and we are now obliged to go ten miles to butcher.

It seems to me evident that the greatest obstacle to civilizing the majority of the Indians is their ownership of horses, which is proved by the fact that these who work have either few or no horses. An Indian who has a band of horses devotes all his time to them and to racing. Such a one will not work, nor will he sell any of his stock, but he is clamorous for goods and supplies, and, having influence by means of his possessions, he is an obstacle to all progress.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
April 14, 1879.

SIR: On November 28, 1879, I responded to your circular No. 26 concerning issues to Indians individually instead of to families, and therein I showed that, in the weekly issues, the requirements were so difficult and impossible of performance that I would be forced to continue the old method; but, at the same time, I sent a form substantially the same, indicating what I could accomplish. The reasons why I did this were given in detail, and I have been waiting for your reply.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A. Colorado. M. 675. 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, April 7, 1879.

SIR: Explanations to exceptions to your accounts as United States Indian Agent at White River, forwarded by you under date of March 24, 1879, have been received.

Your attention is called to regulations of this office that all explanations must be submitted in duplicate, and that the cash and property

explanations must be made as separate and distinct communications before they can be considered.

Each exception, whether to cash or property, must be taken up and explained in *detail*, as required by the exception.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,

United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

April 14, 1879.

SIR: I apprehend that in my accounts of last fall, and perhaps of this spring, a discrepancy will be found, indicating an excess of some supplies issued considering the number of Indians reported. If such excess should appear, it will arise from issuing the same to Indians who are at work, and the authority was assumed from the closing paragraph of circular No. 12, as follows: "Indians will be employed for all temporary labor whenever practicable, and at a compensation not exceeding \$15 a month, in cash, and full rations of subsistence or its equivalent." Hence, sometimes they had less flour and generally less beef than they are entitled to, and more coffee, sugar, and baking-powder. The working Indians have two boarding-houses, and the rations are issued in bulk to the Indian families that cook for them, and I have given in addition some potatoes and dried apples belonging to the school.

Inasmuch as the cooking is done out doors, without stoves and with few cooking utensils, the food does not go as far as it would if there were only common conveniences; but they get along tolerably well, for I help them what I can, and encouraging them with the hope of houses, stoves, and furniture in the future. Next year, or at the close of this, I hope to have plenty of vegetables and of their own growing.

The work they are performing is naturally laborious, and I wish I had a greater variety of food, for I know it will greatly increase their willingness to labor.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

April 14, 1879.

SIR: In response to your circular No. 29, requesting me to furnish you a list of the employes required for the coming year, I would say: That in addition to the regular force of teachers, carpenter, blacksmith, farmer, engineer, sawyer, and herder—seven—I shall require the six additional men you have hitherto allowed.

The situation is as follows: Rations are issued at the old location, where the carpenter puts up rations and keeps the accounts, and the teacher cares for the children and gives out medicine. I myself spend

five days in the week at the new location, where all the rest of the employés are at work and also fifteen or twenty Indians. We are half moved; everything is new; we are breaking raw land and fencing it, making lateral courses for irrigation, trying to build Indian houses; in short, going through a vast sight of pioneer work.

The cattle, numbering over 1,500 head, are pushed out by the many bands of horses from the central range, so as to form a vast circumference, as I have previously stated to you, requiring a great deal of work on the part of the herders and employés, particularly for "rounding up" to butcher, and important work presses forward every hour. The Indians at work require constant superintendence, for, having only commenced, they do not know how to work alone, and thus we have need, and great need, for the men I ask for. In addition, I want to break several hundred acres of sod this spring and summer, which Indians cannot possibly do; and this must be done and the ground fenced, that these Indians may have land they can till next year. If I had proper land this spring, with farm implements, the Indians would put in several hundred acres in crops; but I have it not, and they take all there is available, about fifty acres. I tried hard last summer to get ground broken and was only able to plow in the fall, so that now the sod is but partly rotted and the ground will be hard to cultivate, particularly by Indians, who should have nice mellow land. This mellow land is precisely what I am striving for, and when it is got white labor can be largely dispensed with.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
April 21, 1879.

SIR: I have received financial circular No. 8, April 1, 1879, in regard to telegraph messages.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A.—Colorado, M—819—1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
April 21, 1879.

SIR: The appointment and resignation of the following employés at the White River Agency, recommended in your communication of the 7th instant, are hereby approved.

APPOINTED.

Edgar E. Clark, farmer, April 1, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Edwin L. Mansfield, herder, April 1, 1879, at \$270 per annum.

RESIGNED.

Joseph S. Collom, farmer, March 31, 1879.

John H. Collom, herder, March 31, 1879.

Respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,

United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

April 28, 1879.

SIR: In reply to yours of 15th instant, "F. Colo., M 204, '79," inquiring the capacity of our saw-mill, a knowledge necessary to have before action is taken in regard to purchasing machinery for grist-mill, I say that the engine is rated at 20-horse power, which is sufficient to run a grist-mill separately, but not to run the saw-mill at the same time. This arrangement will answer every purpose, though as to the durability of the engine and boiler I cannot say, but presume it is sufficient for several years. I want to get logs down the river and have the saw-mill moved so as to cut shingles, for all our roofs leak badly whenever it rains, and I hope to hear about the grist-mill soon.

Respectfully yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

April 28, 1879.

SIR: Yours of 15th instant, "F. Colo., M 204, '79," requests me "to submit a report of the condition of the buildings at the new agency location," and I reply: First, is a blacksmith shop; second, another building occupied by myself and for storage; and, third, an employé's house, used for lodging and cooking, each about 16 by 30. The latter was built there, the others were hauled from this place. They are all of logs, with poles and dirt thereon for roofs. If the covering is not thick, mud and water come through at the time it rains; if thick, not till the next day. In addition is a log stable for six mules, covered with old hay, tolerably warm, and adjacent is a good-sized corral with divisions for horses and cows, and for stacks. Six Indian families come to the corral night and morning to milk cows, which they help break, and more will be added. As these structures occupy the south side of the street, and two corners of streets, on the northeast is the 8-acre field, where are crops growing, enclosed by a first-class wire and pole fence. At the southwest corner of this field is a vacancy of about 150 feet square, left for suitable agency buildings.

About three-fourths of a mile east, on the river bank, is a boom, perhaps 300 feet long, made of a line of two logs chained and bolted together for holding saw-logs, 350 of which are cut, 40 miles below, and which are to be floated down in high water in June. It is at the foot

of this boom that the saw-mill is to be erected when moved, the capacity of which is given on another sheet.

Respectfully yours,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 5, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you that during the first quarter, 1879, I have collected the sum of \$13 on account of miscellaneous receipts, which, added to the amount previously reported, \$27, makes a total now on hand of \$40.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. E. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A. Colorado, M. 818—820, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
May 2, 1879.

SIR: Your report for irregular Indian employes for the month of March, 1879, involving an expenditure of \$207.75, is hereby approved.

Respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 5, 1879.

SIR: In regard to Indian apprentices, I note in your circular "accounts No. 22, July 9, 1878," paragraph 6, that each white mechanic is to have charge of two Indian apprentices. Now, hitherto this has been impracticable; but the prospect is that during the season the plan may be entered upon. But my experience is that boys cannot be had unless they are waifs without homes, and that, therefore, they must be provided with a home if they are to become mechanics, for the Indian home is not suited to regular labor habits, the meals are irregular, dinner at noon is never prepared, while the residence itself is often moved sometimes miles away. Such an obstacle presented itself when adults began to work, and it was necessary to establish an Indian boarding-house, a poor affair, but one that answers in moderate weather during half the year. My plan would be to establish a boarding house both for appren-

tices and young men at work, managed by a white cook, with Indian women or girls for assistants; and this might or might not be in connection with the school; probably it had better be, having the teacher in charge of the whole; but it would be impossible for her to do all the cooking; she must have efficient help, that would cost, say, \$30 a month, board included. By such a plan the Indian laborers would be removed from tribal associations and acquire other tastes and habits, while the Indian women would learn to make bread, which they need much to learn, to wash, iron, sew, &c., and come to know the value of household utensils. I see no hope of progress for families living and cooking on the ground, and with no means for saving, nor for doing decent work, even if they know better.

I am decidedly of the opinion that the direct way to civilize the Indians is with better and a greater variety of food, provided largely by their own labor, and with comfortable dwellings. They all like white people's cooking much better than their own, the women in particular, and I know they will do far more work, and be able to do it, with something good to eat than without. There are stronger inducements in coffee, milk, sugar, and dried fruit than in money; and if I had things properly provided and organized, I would prefer horses, wagons, harness, stoves, crockery, bedsteads, chairs, looking-glasses, and the like, to all the money one might get, because the Indians value these things; money they do not know the value of, nor know how to use it. I know this is not exactly "business" writing, but it seems to me that the Indian question is first an industrial and next a social one.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 10, 1879.

SIR: I shall be obliged if you will correct error in my return of property for fourth quarter, 1878, in the item of calico, October 2, 1878, voucher No. 1, for third quarter, since 47 yards of calico were issued where it was not entered in abstract D, issued to Indians for said fourth quarter, making a total for said quarter, 3,647½ yards instead of 3,600½ yards, as reported, which leaves the true balance on hand at the close of the quarter 187½ yards, instead of 234½ yards, as stated.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
May 19, 1879.

SIR: I have found it unsafe and extra hazardous to sow the 743 pounds oats obtained for seed, owing to the certain advent of grasshoppers, for they have already hatched out by the billion 50 miles below on the river, so that by the time this grain is nearly matured the flying pest

will alight, and, eating off the heads, will ruin the crop. They strip wheat of its leaves, but do not injure the head. The seed-corn I have obtained is necessarily "grasshopper proof." Potatoes are injured slightly; pease they never touch; general garden stuff has to be fought for. Some of the Indians wanted to sow oats, but I discouraged them, as their first attempt will meet with disasters enough. I therefore ask authority to use this 743 pounds oats for feed, as they will be needed by the increased stock of mules.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A.)—Colorado, M. 1102—1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 5, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 19th ultimo, I have to say that you will be allowed to expend the 743 pounds of oats for feed, as from your statement it will not be advisable to sow them.

Respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
May 27, 1879.

SIR: You are advised that your cash account for the first quarter, 1879, has not been received at this office. You are directed to forward the same without further delay.

In this connection your attention is called to section 47 of instructions to superintendents and Indian agents, of July 1, 1877, and to section 5471 of the United States Revised Statutes.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT, *Commissioner.*

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
June 1, 1879.

SIR: I note that in your "exceptions" to my property returns, fourth quarter 1878, just received, you call my attention to circular letter No. 26, October, 1878, to the effect that strict compliance will be required with what this circular demands. I now respectfully ask you to rescind the provisions of this circular, so far as this agency is concerned, and for the following reasons:

Form 3 of abstract D demands that issues shall be made to individual Indians on the basis of the "true amount of the ration as established

in the table annexed." Now, neither I nor my employé can possibly certify to the issue of supplies that are exhausted, nor can there be a reliable certificate on the part of witnesses to such fractions as $\frac{5}{100}$ lb. coffee, $1\frac{2}{100}$ lb. sugar, $4\frac{0}{100}$ lb. bacon, and $1\frac{7}{100}$ lb. tobacco, absolutely required by your orders, as I showed November 28, 1878, and this in particular while half a pound is the least our scales will weigh.

There are a great many obstacles beside to the carrying out of the provisions of circular No. 26, and which instead of diminishing clerical labor will increase it twofold, and certainly so in our present disorganized condition, growing out of removing to the new location; but I do not refer to them now, since there is one other request so utterly impossible to obey that this alone will show you the situation as making the adoption of Form 3 out of the question. This is the certification by the agent that "labor is performed on the reservation by each of the Indians to an amount equal in value to the supplies delivered to each."

Now, I may have had some 35 Indians, altogether, who at various times have worked, while none of the rest have done any kind of work; nor do I expect that the majority will be willing to work for several years, if ever they are. But, entirely aside from this, there have been full as many who could be induced or seduced to labor as I could provide with land and implements, so that you must see I cannot carry out this part of Form 3, and I ask that you rescind this portion at least.

I wish you would rescind the whole circular till I can get organized in Powell Valley. Practically we are in the condition of a new agency, with all sorts of necessities and conveniences to provide for. At this present writing, a part of the agency and goods are in one place and part in another. We are moving and are re-erecting log houses, struggling with new land and undergoing all the hardships of pioneers, involving a vast amount of "dead work," that is, such as does not show, but which is absolutely necessary to get a start; and all this season will be required so that we can be placed in the position where work is to be done.

The issue of beef requires by Form 3 a slaughter-house and also an ice-house, where beef that is not needed can be kept during warm weather; since there is no kind of probability that an even number of steers will ever exactly supply or fill the proper ration, and these we have not nor can have till next year.

I like the general idea or object of Form 3. in fact all of circular letter 26; indeed, they are substantially such as I would be extremely happy to carry out, though it seems to me absolutely necessary to cancel unnecessary fractions. But I do feel that I must ask you to waive my undertaking to put them in execution until I shall be in a condition to execute.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A. Colorado, M. 1199, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
June 20, 1879.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, wherein you request to be relieved from the operation of office circular No. 26, issued October, 1878.

In reply I have to say that the reasons presented are not deemed sufficient to warrant the making of an exception in your favor.

As to the impossibility of weighing the exact ration, I have to say that the various articles comprising the ration may be exactly weighed on any ordinary scale, with the exception of a few of the articles which are issued in small quantities, and even in the case of their issue the amount to be issued may be so nearly arrived at on ordinary scales as to make no material difference.

In regard to the increase of clerical work required in the use of Form 3, I have to say that this form has been put into successful use at agencies where the number of Indians is greatly in excess of the number at your agency without any material increase in the clerical labor.

You give as a final reason why you should not be required to use these forms that you are required to certify that the Indians to whom the issues are made have performed labor upon the reservation for the benefit of themselves or of the tribe to an amount equal in value to the supplies delivered to each, as required by section 3 of the act of March 3, 1875, and that you cannot sign such certificates because your Indians, with a few exceptions, have not performed labor.

Your attention is called to the note upon the back of such of the new forms referred to in circular No. 26, and which reads as follows: "When Indians, by the written order of the Secretary of the Interior, are excepted from the operations of the section of the act above referred to, the clause in the certificate relative to labor performed may be erased by the agent, and a reference made to the date of the order making such exception;" and your attention is further called to the fact that under date of May 22, 1875, the Indians of your agency were exempted from the requirements of the labor clause of the act above referred to.

You will therefore be expected and required to comply with the instructions contained in office circular No. 26, and must use the new forms, including Form 3, sent out with said circular, commencing the use of the same on and after July 1, 1879. Any receipts for issue made after that date which are not taken in conformity with requirements of circular No. 26 will be disallowed in the settlement of your accounts.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLO.,
June 12, 1879.

SIR: As the three wagons you have purchased by my request for Indians will I understand, soon be here, I ask your authority to retain them for agency use and give the Indians instead those we are using. First, being 3½ inch, they are altogether too heavy for the Indians' horses, and, besides, are wide track, while the ones we use are well suited, since they will never put on heavy loads. At present we dare not load to the power of our teams, and hence with such vehicles we are working at a loss, and we are constantly in danger of breaking down.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A. Colorado, M. 1267, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE INDIAN AFFAIRS,*Washington, June 26, 1879.*

SIR: Referring to your letter of the 12th instant, requesting authority to retain the three wagons which were recently purchased for your Indians for the use of the agency, and to issue to the Indians those now used by you, stating as reasons for such change that the new wagons are too heavy for the Indian horses and that the wagons used by you are better adapted for their purposes, you are advised that your request is granted, with the condition that the issue shall be made to the most deserving of your Indians, who will take good care and make the best use of said wagons, and that those Indians shall perform work of some kind, or render such service therefor as would be an equivalent for the value of the wagon; the price for their labor and the valuation of the wagons to be fixed by yourself.

You will also embody in the receipt to be given therefor by the Indians an agreement on their part to the effect that they will not dispose of said wagons by sale, exchange, or otherwise without first obtaining your consent.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,

United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

June 15, 1879.

SIR: It became necessary last October, 1878, to send out for a blacksmith, as the one here was incapable of doing the work required, and, accordingly, I sent an employé, Edgar E. Clark. He went across the mountains and through Middle Park, and encountered snow-storms, &c., and during the trip expended the sum of \$32.15, (and really more, but as it was overlooked at first rendering, it is not now included). I therefore ask authority for the payment of these expenses, a copy and list of which is herewith submitted. Sub-vouchers are wanting, for the reason he had no paper with him. Certificate will be made hereafter.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A.—Colorado, M—1282—1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, June 27, 1879.

SIR: Replying to your letter of the 15th instant, requesting the approval of a voucher in your cash account for the fourth quarter 1878, for \$32.15, in favor of Edgar E. Clark, being the amount alleged to have

been expended by him on a "trip across the mountains" in search of a blacksmith for your agency, I have to say that this voucher cannot be approved for the following reasons. That the necessity for incurring the expense is not apparent, and no exigency is shown requiring the immediate employment of a blacksmith; and, further, it is believed that such employé could have been obtained by proper correspondence; failing in that, application should have been made to this office, and a blacksmith would have been sent to your agency.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

July 7, 1879.

SIR: In reply to yours June 27 (A., Colorado, M., 1282), in which you say my expense account of E. E. Clark, in getting a blacksmith, October, 1878, is disallowed because no exigency is shown, and because it is believed a smith could have been obtained by correspondence, I have to say:

First, the exigency arose from the fact that we were running two plows in sod-ground, and that the plows required sharpening every other day; and, beside, new points had to be made, which the blacksmith then here could not do, except in an inefficient manner, and did not even pretend that he could, for he had picked up the trade. To help him all in our power we went to the expense and trouble of burning a coal-pit to get charcoal, and after that he spoilt the share of one plow by burning.

Meanwhile I was corresponding with several parties, trying to obtain a smith at Rawlins, on Bear and Snake Rivers, in Denver, and Middle Park, but failed, generally because the wages offered were not an inducement, as smiths could earn as much at home, or more. Of all this I have no evidence but my word, except that of the smith I did obtain through Mr. Clark, and this I inclose herewith. This is of Mr. Woodbury, whom I especially desired Mr. Clark to get, because I knew he was a good workman, though an apprentice, and when he came he had not quite served his time, and his folks let him go, as I offered to have him in my care. Since he came our smith-work has been entirely satisfactory, nor do we burn charcoal for him.

The time came when our plowing had to stop; the season was growing late, and Mr. Clark was sent to get a smith, that something might still be saved. These circumstances as related enter among the reasons why our farm-work has been so backward this season.

I grant that this statement should have been fully made before, but my inexperience is one excuse, and the propriety of the step I took, another; but these do not alter the facts that, in a business point of view, much greater expense would have been justified.

In conclusion, I feel like adding that, to get a smith here as soon as possible, I let Mr. Woodbury ride on my horse, which was well used up on the trip, and afterward I was put to the expense of buying grain at the railroad to feed him; while, but for this, said horse might have been of more nally on my own place, where his services

were needed. I feel, further, that my enthusiasm to get forward is somewhat beyond my worldly discretion, at least as exhibited in this case, but which is quite certain to be moderated.

However, it seems to me now that the above statement, with the inclosure, will lead you to the conclusion that Mr. Clark's expense account should be allowed, since it was made within the proper "sphere of duty;" but I leave you to censure me freely for not giving you all the particulars before, so that you could have a clear understanding of the case.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 7, 1879.

SIR: As the only weighing scales we have for weighing supplies will weigh nothing less than half a pound, and as the new method of issue demands weights less than half a pound, I would ask you to send scales suited for the requirements.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 10, 1879.

SIR: I wish to be informed as to whether Ute Indians from Uintah and Los Pinos Agencies are to be considered "visiting Indians," such as referred to in circular No. 10, prohibiting the issue of supplies, &c., in your letter, February 5, 1879 (A., Colorado, M., 2020, 1878), prohibiting the issue of annuity goods to any but "Indians belonging to this agency." Now, there is a considerable number of the names of Indians on our books belonging to Indians who undoubtedly reside at the other two agencies, and these names are even printed on Form 3, while I have no doubt but names of Indians belonging here are on the books of those other agencies. It was the practice of previous agents to issue supplies and annuity goods to all Utes who appeared, because they belong to the Utes, for whom a common appropriation was made. I have endeavored to avoid this, but have not been successful, except by way of protest and discouragement. How to refuse making issues to some of those whose names are on our books I do not clearly see the way; still, it should be done, for, in the case of annuity goods, unless a common day is fixed for issue, it is easy for some to get double amounts of goods, and this because, in addition, no Ute has been considered a "visiting Indian." I don't know as the matter is important, since the money appropriated belongs to all; but, if important and exact distribution is to be secured, I would like a rule for action as to those whose names are printed.

The old practice of issuing to Utes because they are Utes, if continued, is likely to work badly at present, providing Form 3 is not put in oper-

ation at Los Pinos, for some of my Indians went thither last week, and I hear now that a good many more are going. If they find the old system in practice, they will charge me with changing the issue without authority from you. Last spring they made a great fuss because I required them to work, while at Los Pinos there was no such requirement. If, however, they find the issue the same there as here, they will surrender.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

P. S.—I am frequently referred to Revised Statutes. The work is not in this office. If you can supply it, please do so.—N. C. M.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A., Colorado, M., 1461, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 30, 1879.

SIR: Replying to your letter of the 10th instant, inquiring whether Ute Indians from the Uintah and Los Pinos Agencies are to be considered "visiting Indians," and as such prohibited by circular No. 10 from sharing in the issue of supplies, I have to say that you must confine the distribution of all supplies of subsistence, as well as of annuity goods, to the Indians who are known to belong to your agency.

If the printed list of names on Form 3 of vouchers for supplies issued contains the names of any Indians belonging to the Los Pinos or Southern Ute Agencies, or if the names of some of the Indians of your agency do not appear on said list, you have authority to amend the list in these respects.

For the purpose of preventing these so-called "visiting Indians" from receiving double amounts of annuity goods, a common day for the issue of the same should be fixed upon between yourself and the agent in charge of the other Ute agencies, after the goods have been received at the different agencies.

In all cases, the issue of supplies and annuity goods should be made in accordance with section 2109 of the Revised Statutes.

A compilation from the Revised Statutes of the United States of laws relating to Indian affairs, published by this office for the guidance of Indian agents, has this day been forwarded to you for the files of your office.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 10, 1879.

SIR: Please send 200 sheets of Form 3, which shall be printed without the names of any Indians or the figures in the two left-hand col.

umns, the one being for the Indians whose names are not printed on regular forms.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A., Colorado, M., 1488, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 23, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to request authority for the employment of two assistant herders at the White River Agency, Colorado, at a compensation of \$600 each per annum, and for such length of time as their services may be required.

The United States Indian agent in charge states, in a letter dated the 4th instant, that the above sum is necessary by reason of the large and increasing herd of cattle on the reservation, which scatters widely over the range; that the Indians employed as herders are wholly untrustworthy and can only be depended upon while in sight.

The amount allowed for employés at the White River Agency for the present fiscal year is \$7,830.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

(A., Colorado, I., 1635, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 31, 1879.

SIR: Authority is hereby granted for the employment of two assistant herders at the White River Agency, at a compensation not exceeding \$600 per annum each, for such period of time as their services may be required.

Upon receipt of this letter you are directed to submit the names of the persons employed in the above-mentioned service, upon the proper form, for the action of this office.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 23, 1879,

SIR: I wish special authority for the issue of extra rations to working Indians. I have made such extra issue, based on circular No. 10, March 1, 1878, in which it is stated "temporary Indian laborers should

be paid, in addition to full rations or *their equivalent*," &c.; and circular No. 3, January 9, 1878, p. 1, says: "A wide discretion must be left the agent as to the details and best methods of this labor." The word "equivalent" seemed then to me an authority for giving extra rations to working Indians, while there was a deficiency in the general weekly issue, so that on the whole there was no excess. I may have been wrong in this, and I informed you of my action to this end, but had no response. Even if I was right, it is now impossible, by the new forms of issue, to make the proper and required vouchers; and, therefore, I ask authority to issue extra rations as an inducement to get the Indians to work; and I feel that it is absolutely necessary to be able to offer such inducements, for if they who work get no more food than they who do not work, the incentive to work does not exist. It is true that they have 50 cents a day cash; but generally they who do work earn more than this, for they are good men, and some extra rations would, beside getting their working habits more confirmed, be a simple matter of justice. For then, as I have previously stated, the Indians do not attach as much value to money as belongs to it.

I would suggest, as most desirable and easiest, and most proper, that the extra rations asked for be issued by the teacher, and on the teacher's requisition and vouchers, and they should consist mostly of rice and dried fruit, molasses, and such things as are on hand, and which have been obtained for educational purposes—industrial habits undoubtedly being the basis of education.

Aside from this, it seems to me I might use the cash on hand derived from miscellaneous receipts, now amounting to \$70, for the object herein indicated.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

A., Colorado. M., 1565, 1879.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, August 8, 1879.

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 23d ultimo, wherein you ask authority for the issue of extra rations to working Indians, I have to say that circular No. 10, issued by this office March 1, 1878, gives full instructions relative to the issuing of rations to Indians for labor performed by them.

Temporary Indian laborers, being paid, in addition to full rations, including sugar, coffee, tea, and tobacco, \$15 per month in money, should not be supplied by the agent with molasses, dried fruit, &c., which articles are purchased only for use of the agency school.

The funds derived from "miscellaneous receipts" may be used for the benefit of the Indians in conformity with paragraph 3 of office circular dated January 24, 1877.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
July 23, 1879.

SIR: Your circular No. 30, July 14, 1879, is received. I am now actually engaged in preparing a large breadth of ground for next year, and all the implements required are either here or on the way, except a threshing machine, which we must have, and though I have asked for it, have as yet had no response.

Circular No. 31 is also received, and will have prompt attention.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A. Colorado. M. 1055, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 25, 1879.

SIR: In the explanations to exceptions to your property account for the third quarter, 1878, you speak of a tabular statement of a large quantity of annuity goods received by you during that quarter as having been forwarded to this office in August, 1878. Said statement does not appear to have been received; you will, therefore, without delay, forward to this office an official copy of the statement above referred to, in order that the adjustment of your accounts for that quarter may be completed.

Inclosed I return for your signature voucher 1, abstract D, third quarter, 1878, and request the return of it in duplicate at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

(A. Colorado. H. 817, 796, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, July 30, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter June 7 last, relative to suspensions to your accounts for the first quarter, 1879, I have to say that, under date of the 3d instant, the honorable the Secretary of the Interior approved the expenditures named in your letter of the 6th of June. This, together with the explanations forwarded by you, are deemed sufficient to remove the suspensions to which they relate, except item transportation of Judge McFarland, your explanation to this item not being satisfactory.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

General EDW. HATCH, U. S. A.,
Chairman Ute Special Commission, Sante Fe, N. Mex.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,

August 11, 1879.

SIR: You have allowed \$400 for skilled labor of millwright; the grist-mill you buy yourself. Now, I find no man willing to come unless his wages are allowed from the day he starts; also his transportation and his board while here; and the wages is from \$3.50 to \$4 a day. A man whom I know is a first-class workman, for he has put up the best mill in Colorado, and his terms are expenses, board, and \$3.50 per day. I would like to have him, for I know he will do a good job. His name is Houghton. But, as there may be a difficulty in deciding upon a rate per day, I refer the matter for your decision.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,

Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A. Colorado. M. 879, 1692, 1860; I. 1996, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, September 24, 1879.

SIR: The appointment of the following employés at the White River Agency, recommended in your communication of the 1st instant, is approved as follows:

Henry James, interpreter, July 1, 1879, at \$300 per annum.

Wm. H. Post, carpenter, July 1, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Josephine Meeker, teacher and physician, July 1, 1879, at \$750 per annum.

Henry S. Dresser, engineer, July 1, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Albert A. Woodbury, blacksmith, July 1, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Edwin L. Mansfield, herder, July 1, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Shaduck Price, farmer, July 1, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Wilmer E. Eskridge, sawyer, August 8, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Arthur L. Thompson, laborer, July 1, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Frank G. Dresser, laborer, July 1, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Fred. E. Shepherd, laborer, July 1, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Geo. W. Eaton, laborer, August 8, 1879, at \$720 per annum.

Referring to your letter of the 11th ultimo, wherein you state that you have been allowed \$400 for the service of a millwright, but that you cannot find a man willing to come unless his wages are allowed from the day he starts, also his transportation and his board while at the agency, and that the rate of wages is from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per day, you are advised that this office cannot accede to such terms, there being no funds applicable to the payment of transportation and board of employés necessary at your agency. If you can employ a suitable person at either rate of compensation mentioned, and for the purpose indicated, from the date upon which he enters duty at the agency, you are directed to submit his name upon the proper form for approval.

Respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,

Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,

United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 13, 1879.

SIR: Yours of 18th ultimo (Colo. M, 1432, 1434, 1435, 1436, 1879), gives authority to issue "salt, baking-powder, tobacco, and beans monthly," for reasons I had stated. I now wish, for same reasons, viz, the small quantity allotted for a weekly issue, that soap may be included. I had previously authority to issue soap when asked for, but by having the present request granted the business of issue will be facilitated and simplified.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

(A. Colorado. M., 1704, 1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, August 22, 1879.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, asking authority to issue soap to the Indians under your charge monthly, instead of weekly, as heretofore, you are directed to include that article in the list of supplies which you were allowed by office letter of the 18th ultimo to issue once in four weeks, on account of the small quantity constituting the ration of each.

Respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER, Esq.,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
August 25, 1879.

SIR: In reference to your exceptions to my cash account for the fourth quarter, 1878, I would say: I would ask your authority for the expenditure of money placed to my credit for building an irrigating ditch, to wit (voucher 2), \$86 paid to Eugene Taylor, for constructing head-gate to said ditch; (voucher 3) \$383.30 paid to William Sithgrow, and (voucher 6) \$50 paid to William Curtis, both for excavation on said ditch.

In reference to E. E. Clark's expenses in getting a blacksmith, in exigency, I beg to call your attention to my letter to you July 7, 1879, and inclosure, asking your authority for this expense with the reasons in full, and which answered the exceptions you had made.

Respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

ASHLEY, UTAH, *October 4, 1879.*

SIR: We understand that the White River Indians have declared war at their agency, and also that the Indians under your charge at Uintah are taking active steps to participate with them, they having been over here and purchased what ammunition could be bought at this place. We are consequently alarmed for the safety of ourselves and families, and urgently request you to use your authority over them for our benefit, or, if you cannot control them peaceably, to send for a sufficient force of armed men to do so.

We are, sir, very respectfully, yours.

LYCURGUS JOHNSON.

H. BURGESS.

D. S. CARTER.

W. C. BRITT.

C. E. COLTON.

S. R. WILLET.

P. HUFFAKER.

JOHN FAIRCHILD.

MITCHELL STEPHENS.

And others.

Maj. J. J. CRITCHLOW,

United States Indian Agent, Uintah Valley Agency.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 6, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to report that "runner" arrived yesterday with reports of the troubles at White River Agency.

I have had a council with Ignacio, Red Jacket, and Namginnirst, chief of the Renegade Utes, and sixty other Southern Ute Indians. They (the Indians) desire that the Great Father be informed that they promised that they will take no part or render any aid to the White River and Uintah Utes; that they are contented and desire to remain at peace.

I to-day refused to issue them annuity goods until this day two weeks; to this refusal they consented, saying, "All right."

The Southern Utes request that when a reply to this report of their action is received it should be communicated to them, which I have promised them I would do.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,

United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 9, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Muache band of Southern Ute Indians arrived at the agency this day from Cimarron, Ind. Ter. They were eighteen days en route.

The chiefs and headmen promised they will take no part in the White River troubles, but will remain quietly on the reservation.

Indian runners came here from White River to induce the Southern Utes to join them, but as yet have not succeeded in so doing.

I am remaining constantly with these Indians, and hope that I will be able to keep them under control.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

LOS PINOS INDIAN AGENCY,
October 9, 1879—1.30 p. m.

DEAR SIR: Your runner just in, and chief Ouray joins me in returning thanks to you and the Southern Utes for your prompt action and wise decision in this important matter, and are pleased to inform you all that our messengers arrived from White River, and that the Utes there have quit fighting at Ouray's request, and, unless the soldiers force it, there will be no more fighting, and ask you and the Southern Utes to join your influence with ours to have the troubles at White River submitted to a commission for investigation and settlement.

Respectfully,

W. M. STANLEY, *Agent.*
OURAY, *Chief of the Utes.*

Col. HENRY PAGE,
Agent Southern Utes.

SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 12, 1879—4 p. m.

SIR: My two Indian runners sent to Ouray, just returned with dispatch from Agent Stanley and Chief Ouray which I forward for your information. I also have the honor to state that nearly all the Southern Utes are still on the reservation with me and have remained constantly with me so far during the White River troubles, although greatly excited, and several times seemed to be on the point of going from under my control, but they have in every instance so far obeyed my directions. I still believe I can control the Southern Utes.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(A, Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 11, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to request the appointment of Ralph Meeker, of New York, as special agent of this office, to proceed to White River

Agency, Colorado, to take charge of government property at that point, and to secure the money, papers, and effects of late Indian Agent N. C. Meeker.

The special agent is to receive no salary, but authority is asked to pay his actual and necessary traveling expenses, and an allowance of \$5 per diem for hotel expenses, meals, and lodgings while engaged in this duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, October 11, 1879.

SIR: In compliance with your recommendation of this date, Mr. Ralph Meeker, of New York, is hereby appointed a special agent of the Indian Office, to proceed to the White River Agency in Colorado, to take charge of the government property at that point, and to secure the money, papers, and effects of late Agent N. C. Meeker.

The special agent will receive no salary, but may be allowed his actual and necessary traveling expenses, and \$5 per diem for hotel expenses, meals, and lodgings, while engaged in this duty.

Very respectfully, &c.,

C. SCHURZ, *Secretary.*

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS:

(A, Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 11, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith, for examination and approval, the official bond of Ralph Meeker, who has been appointed a special agent of the Office of Indian Affairs, to proceed to the White River Agency in Colorado, to take charge of the government property at that point, and to secure the money, papers, and effects of late Agent N. C. Meeker.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

(A, Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, October 11, 1879.

SIR: Having been appointed a special agent of this office, by authority of the honorable the Secretary of the Interior of this date, you are

hereby directed to proceed to White River Agency, Colorado, to take charge of the government property at that point, and to secure the money, papers, and effects of late Indian Agent N. O. Meeker.

You are to receive no salary, but your actual and necessary traveling expenses will be allowed, and an allowance of \$5 per diem for hotel expenses, meals, and lodgings, while engaged in this duty.

I inclose herewith, for your information and guidance, general order of the department of July 1, 1874, and you are to comply strictly with the rules therein contained, as an itemized account of all expenditures incurred must be rendered, and you will make a certificate to said account as directed in the order above referred to, with an additional clause as follows: "That no part of the journey charged for was made on any free pass on any railway, steamboat, or other public conveyance."

Blanks upon which to render such account are inclosed herewith.

Very respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

RALPH MEEKER, Esq., *Present.*

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS INDIAN AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 12, 1879.

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

Employé Brady (?) and escort of Indians just arrived from White River report Utes recognized and obeyed Ouray's order; withdrew, and will fight no more, unless forced to do so; if soldiers are near, stopped; trouble can be settled by peace commission to investigate facts, and let blame rest where it may. This will save life, expense, and distress, if it can be accomplished.

Later: 1.30 p. m.—Runner just from Southern Ute Agency, with letter from agent. Council held; Utes will abide by Ouray's request; want peace; will stay at home and take no part in White River trouble, and request Ouray to inform them of their decision.

STANLEY, *Agent.*

I concur in and indorse the above.

OURAY.
Head Chief Utes.

SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 13, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Southern Utes, Weeminuche, Muache, and Capote bands, have been here in council nearly all day, and now request that I write to the Great Father, telling him that they are at the agency quiet and orderly; that they feel sad on account of the White River troubles; that they will take no part in the present difficulty; that they desire to remain at peace with all; and they hope the Great Father will not send soldiers here; and they promise to conduct themselves properly.

The council consisted the Chiefs Ignacio, Iagula, Topaaheh, Poco Wanaguinup; chief of reungades, Red Jacket, Cavoene, and old Chief Canackche, and about 100 headmen and heads of families, who expressly desired that their names be included in this letter.

I feel confident that they are in earnest and intend to remain at peace.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

LOS PINOS INDIAN AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 13, 1879.

SIR: Inclosed find specimens of Colorado newspaper *fabrications* against the Utes, none of which have any foundation in fact or *truth*.

I have incurred the displeasure of the Coloradians by endeavoring to do justice by the Utes, as against the villifiers and trespassers on their rights and reputation; and they will no doubt make a fight upon me. I am told they are now trying to manufacture prejudice against me as a foundation for an attack. They say I am too much the friend of the Indian, &c.

When the White River trouble began my Utes had just started on their fall hunt and had got about 50 miles on their way when the news of the fight reached them, when they returned, and Ouray and other chiefs came to me for advice, which I gave them, and upon which they have acted from that time until now, and are very anxious that there should be no more fighting, but that their trouble be submitted to a peace or civil tribunal to determine where the blame lies and who the guilty parties are, when arrests can be made with comparative safety; but an attempt to arrest any Indian at this time, when they are excited, will result in bloodshed and loss of life on both sides.

The most of my Indians are here yet and will not leave on their fall hunt until perfect security is felt all over the reservation and along its borders.

Every Indian here is peaceable and has been. The same exists at the Southern Ute Agency thus far, with no fear for the future. I sent a special runner to Del Norte with a dispatch on the 9th which I presume you have received by this time. I also sent a dispatch by Saturday's mail, which will reach you by Tuesday 14th.

Chief Ouray wishes me to ask permission to take Guero (second chief) and Sapavanaro (third chief) and perhaps himself to Washington to have a talk direct with the Commissioner about cattle, about a large irrigating ditch, about work and taking land in severalty, and other matters of interest to the Utes, with a view to doing away with the false impressions brought from Washington last winter by the boys, to wit: "Commissioner say nothing about work. White man work. Indian hunt," &c.

Respectfully yours,

WILSON M. STANLEY,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs Washington D. C.

[Denver Tribune.]

A king dethroned—Ouray, the head chief of the Utes, steps down and out—At least such are the indications at present—Some of the incidents which led to the present results—Ignacio's ignoble conduct and Sapa-vararo's revolt—How the royal Indian lives—Governor's office—Startling intelligence received from the south—Unexpected but undoubted outbreak of the Uncompahgres—Chief Ouray warns the whites that his band is ungovernable—And that the settlers must protect themselves—Lake City appeals for arms and ammunition—The citizens being deeply alarmed at the outlook—A council of war at executive chambers—General Cook appointed commander of the San Juan militia—With orders to muster men, conduct the fight, and repel invasion—A special railroad train of guns and ammunition dispatched south from Denver—General Hatch to take charge of the troops in Southern Colorado—Companies of soldiers gathering at Garland—Three hundred men under arms at Leadville—Ordinance to be forwarded from Fort Leavenworth—A day of excitement in Denver.

VIGOROUS SENTIMENTS.

[From the Cheyenne Leader.]

Here there is every indication of a regular winter campaign. The blood of the military arm of the government is up and no fooling will be allowed. Milk River must be avenged. The Indians realize that trouble lies ahead and will get out of the way of the military as much as possible, especially as the troops will be in force. Hence General Merritt and General Cook, too, may be required to hunt for the redskin offenders. Their search must extend down into Southwestern Colorado, and there must be fought the battles of the winter, and there the Utes must be conquered or exterminated. The latter fate surely awaits them if they go off their reservations, for then the governor of Colorado will call out militia and volunteers, and a taste of the historic "Sandy Creek" will be given the Indians. The miners and cow-boys are impatient for an opportunity to wipe out old scores, and they will do it in such a way that new scores will not be created.

It has become apparent, not only to the people of the West, but the government, that the Utes must go. Their presence among the richest mountains and the most fertile vales will breed continual trouble. Encounters between them and settlers have been only too frequent in the past, and they would certainly grow more numerous in the future. So when the Indians have given provocation the troops must thrash them most soundly and then remove them to the Indian Territory, or anywhere, so that they can be put out of the way of harming themselves or others. This is the only solution to the difficulty. It is simple and effective. A great many Indians may be killed before the removal takes place, but there will be just that many less to remove. A big lesson—one of monstrous size—must be taught the Indians. Now is the time and opportunity. The government is disposed to ably carry out the idea, and will do so vigorously unless the snivelling crocodile-teared, jelly-hearted sentiment that spreads over the East like a cloud influences the government to call back the dogs of war.

[Telegram.]

LOS PINOS, COLORADO, 10, 16, 1879.

TO COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, D. C. :

All quiet; women and children safe; there is disposition on part of some Utes to hold them until fact is known that soldiers will not advance, and Ute troubles left to a peaceable solution; will be sent in safety here when above fact is known. Ouray would like answer to dispatch 9th instant, as he fears if soldiers are pushed that Arapahoes, Shoshones, Uintahs and other bands will join White River and the war become general. He suggests that all agents be notified from department in order to prevent it if possible.

STANLEY, Agent.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY, COLORADO,
October 25, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to report, for your information, that the Weeminuches, Muaches and Capotes, Southern Utes, including "Red Jacket's" and Narraguinipi renegades, are remaining in the immediate vicinity of the agency and conducting themselves well.

Troops are not and have not been on the reservation.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
SOUTHERN UTE AGENCY,
October 26, 1879—12 m.

SIR: My runner, "Alhandro," sub-chief of Southern Utes, is just in from Uncompahgre and reports from White River Utes as follows, which I respectfully forward for your information:

"Alhandro" says that the White River Utes told him that the cause of the outbreak was the killing of an old Indian and boy who were trapping beaver. An American at Storo told the Indians that Agent Meeker had sent for troops to fight the Utes. They saw some troops coming and engaged them. After the engagement the Indians found the old Indian's blanket in possession of the soldiers.

"Alhandro" also reports that the four captives, two women and two children, are kept separate, each with a different band of Indians. He reports 25 Indians killed in the engagements with troops.

There is no doubt but Alhandro received these reports from the White River Utes, be they true or otherwise.

Very respectfully,

HENRY PAGE,
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, November 3, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to recommend that W. M. Stanley, United States Indian agent at Los Pinos Agency, Colorado, be authorized to employ 30 Indian scouts, at a salary of \$15 per month each and an allowance of one ration additional, to assist General Charles Adams, special commissioner of this department, in his negotiations with the Utes of the White River Agency, for the cessation of hostilities, and the surrender by them of those Indians who committed the murder of Agent Meeker and his employes; said scouts to be under the command of General Adams, and to be employed as long as he may deem their services necessary to the successful completion of the duties with which he is charged.

I would also request that the requisite authority be granted to Agent

Stanley to purchase in open market such quantities of subsistence stores for the use of these Indian scouts, and forage for their animals in case there is not a sufficiency thereof on hand at the agency, as may be necessary for their support during the time in which they are so employed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram.]

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., November 3, 1879.

To RALPH MEEKER, *Greeley, Colorado :*

No further duty just now. Report here in person.

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

ALAMOSA, COLO., *November 6, 1879.*

To COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C. :

Send by mail names of White River Utes on annuity report rolls, to Los Pinos Agency—Ouray.

HATCH,
Commissioner.

[Telegram.]

ALAMOSA, COLO., *November 7, 1879.*

To HAYT,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C. :

Mail to me blank papers, vouchers, as may be required for disbursement connected with commission to Los Pinos Agency. Adams passed through here last night; the interpreter, Ex-Governor Head, informs me he cannot reach Los Pinos Agency before the 12th; have therefore instructed the commission to take evidence on that day; Head is authorized interpreter by Secretary of the Interior.

HATCH,
Commissioner.

(A.—Colorado. M.—1860—1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 18, 1879.

SIR : The salary allowed the herder at White River Agency, Colorado, the present fiscal year, is \$600 per annum, which is \$120 less than last year. Agent Meeker, in a recent letter to this office, states that the

herd of cattle at this agency now numbers 1,800, and values the same at \$25,000; that his present herder is one of the best men that he has, and to reduce his salary is to do him great injustice.

In view of these facts, I have the honor to recommend that his salary for the present fiscal year be fixed at the same rate as last year (\$720).

The amount allowed at the White River Agency for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, is \$7,830.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

(A.—Colorado. M.—1189—1879.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 17, 1879.

SIR: Your report of irregular Indian laborers for the month of May last, involving an expenditure of \$70.50, is hereby approved.

Respectfully,

E. J. BROOKS,
Acting Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

(Colorado.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, September 27, 1879.

SIR: I inclose herewith, additional exceptions taken by the Board of Indian Commissioners to your cash account, second quarter, 1879.

Respectfully,

E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner.

N. C. MEEKER,
United States Indian Agent, White River Agency, Colorado.

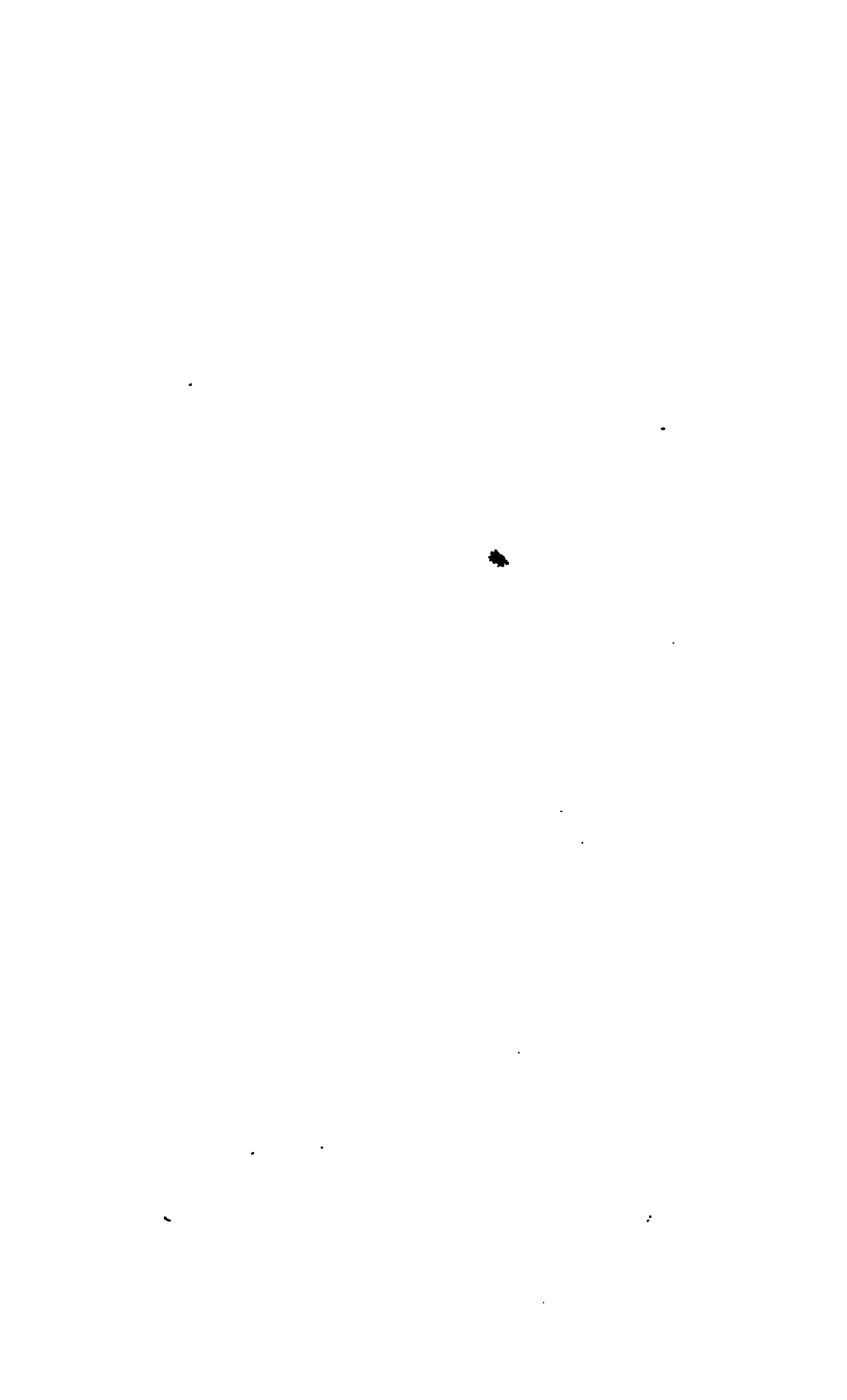
WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO,
September 27, 1879.

SIR: In answer to your exceptions to my property account for first quarter 1879, I would say that the eight police badges receipted for December 20, 1878, are properly accounted for in office copy of property returns for said quarter. If the same do not appear in the copies forwarded to your office, it is doubtless owing to an omission in copying the same.

Very respectfully,

N. C. MEEKER,
Indian Agent.

Hon. E. A. HAYT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.





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